




INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 4, 2023
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Winterizing Public Washrooms - Winter Operations (PW21031(c)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Kara Bunn (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4334
SUBMITTED BY:	Cynthia Graham Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

At the October 16, 2023 Public Works Committee meeting, in response to public feedback, staff were directed to report back respecting the extension of operating hours (for parks winter washroom availability) during the winter months.

INFORMATION

On October 25, 2023, in response to report PW21031(b), Council voted in favour of continuing with the winter washroom provision for the 2023/24 season. The winter program proposed followed the model used during the 2021-2023 pilot program. In order to operationalize this as a permanent program in 2024, the costs of the program will be referred to the 2024 Tax Budget process.

The 2023/24 program started on November 1, 2023 with two notable changes that were noted in the Report and additionally requested by Council.

The first change was to add in Confederation Park washrooms that were newly constructed and winterized, and per Council request, to put portable toilets at Mountain Drive Park as an interim measure while the new washroom building is constructed and to add Montgomery Park washroom as a location because there were no locations in Ward 4 throughout the pilot program.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

SUBJECT: Winterizing Public Washrooms - Winter Operations (PW21031(c)) (City Wide) - Page 2 of 2

The second request was to report back on the feasibility of longer washroom hours for the winter season, in response to the community consultation. During the pilot program winter washrooms were available daily only during daylight hours starting November 1, 2022 until May 1, 2023.

Parks and Facilities Sections have worked with our contractors to implement the extension of the washroom hours to start opening as early as 6:00 a.m. and to start closing by 6:00 p.m. Washroom hours will vary based on where they are on the route, as contractors move across the City opening them. This change has been implemented to allow for an extra two hours of availability in both the morning and evening, seven days a week, from November 1, 2023 to May 1, 2024. There is no additional cost to providing extra opening hours.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

N/A