

**TO:** MAYOR & COUNCILLORS  
**FROM:** GENERAL MANAGER PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE  
**SUBJECT:** **BARNET MARINE PARK PARKING RESERVATION PROGRAM**  
**PURPOSE:** To seek Council approval for the proposed two-year plan to implement a free parking reservation program at Barnet Marine Park.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the proposed Parking Reservation Program as outlined in this report titled “Barnet Marine Park Parking Reservation Program” dated March 25, 2024 be approved; and

**THAT** the City Solicitor be authorized to bring forward amendments to the Burnaby Parks Parking Regulation Bylaw 1991 and Burnaby Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw 2009, as described in the report.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Barnet Marine Park is a popular destination that experiences a high demand from the public during the summer months with over 1,900 daily visitors and approximately 1,000 vehicles per day. Staff are recommending a parking management plan phased in over two years with both time-limited and parking reservation options in place by the summer of 2025.

### **1.0 POLICY SECTION**

This report supports the following Council-adopted policies, plans and strategies: City’s Equity Policy (2020), Corporate Strategic Plan (2017), Social Sustainability Strategy (2016), Burnaby Transportation Plan (2021), Healthy Community Policy (1991), and the Benefits Based Approach (2023).

### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

At the December 05, 2023 Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting, staff presented options for improving parking at Barnet Marine Park (the “Park”) that ranged from keeping the status quo to implementing paid parking. Feedback from the Commission was overwhelmingly for a free, reservable parking program, similar to what is in place in other busy regional parks and BC Hydro parks.

The Park is a popular destination located on the shores of Burrard Inlet in North Burnaby. The Park experiences a high demand from the public, especially during the summer months. The estimated annual visitor count exceeds 276,000 with peak periods attracting over 1,900 daily visitors. Most visitors arrive by vehicle, leading to significant parking lot demand, which can reach up to 1,000 vehicles per day.

The Park features three parking lots and one overflow lot, providing a total of 468 parking stalls (Attachment 1). There are also eight marked parallel passenger loading (drop-off only) stalls located near the Takeda Drive East Parking Lot, including six accessible parking stalls. In addition, overflow parking is located to the south of Barnet Road near the Burnaby Mountain Bike Skills Course.

During peak times in summer, congestion within the parking lots and along internal roadways is common, along with vehicle queuing that extends onto Barnet Highway.

In 2023, staff closely monitored the parking lots from the May 22<sup>nd</sup> Victoria Day long weekend to the September 4<sup>th</sup> Labour Day long weekend. The results of the monitoring are shown on Attachment 2.

The management of vehicle and pedestrian crowding and safety during peak periods often requires City staff and RCMP on-site. In addition, two portable electronic signs are located at the east and west entrances of Barnet Highway which indicate when the parking lots are full. Despite these notifications, traffic congestion and queuing along Barnet Highway persists.

Parks, Recreation and Culture (“PRC”) staff, City Bylaw enforcement officers, and RCMP along with proposed parking regulation changes are required to manage traffic and ensure on-site safety for all visitors.

### **3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **3.1 Project Overview**

The proposed Parking Reservation Program at Barnet Marine Park will be for weekends only and implemented in two phases with the first phase beginning in 2024 and the second phase taking place in 2025.

##### **Phase 1: 2024**

On weekends only between May 01 and September 30, 2024, a park visitor will be able to choose a parking lot based on their length of stay: two hours, four hours, or all-day (Attachment 3):

This phase will involve the following activities:

1. Bylaw Update:
  - described later in the report in Section 3.2 “Enforcement”;
2. Infrastructure Setup:
  - Installation of entry/exit signage, parking regulation signage with posted parking time limits, required technology and any additional site changes;
3. Promotion and Communication:
  - Communication and education for park visitors on the different time limits in the parking lots;
4. Reservation System Selection:
  - Selection of the technology to support the system for the Parking Reservation Program. This will be an App to allow park users to reserve

parking spaces on Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays (from May to September) at no cost;

5. Investigation of on-site communications for parking availability:
  - Investigate the use of digital display signs to show the real-time availability of parking stalls at Barnet Marine Park and Burnaby Mountain Bike Skills Course parking lots as well as linkages to the City's website.

## **Phase 2: 2025**

In Phase 2, between May 01 and September 30, 2025, a park visitor on weekends will still be able to choose a parking lot based on length of stay: two hours, four hours or all-day and they will have the additional option to reserve an all-day parking stall at the Takeda West Parking Lot. Attachment 3 shows the Phase 1 and 2 parking allocations.

The Takeda West parking lot will be the only parking lot available for all-day reservations. Those park visitors who are not able to reserve a parking spot will have the option to park on a first-come-first-served basis at the locations noted in Attachment 3:

Phase 2 will include the following activities:

1. Infrastructure Setup:
  - Installation of additional infrastructure, such as improved entry/exit signage, parking regulation signage, digital display signs, required technology and any additional site changes;
2. Educate & Support:
  - Continued education about the reservation zones and the process for reserving parking in these new areas;
  - Continued education on how to find real-time parking stalls by either viewing the City's website, or by viewing the digital display signs at the park;
3. Reservation System Implementation:
  - Conduct thorough testing of the reservation system prior to the Victoria Day holiday weekend;
  - Implement the reservation pilot program in the designated parking area.

## **3.2 Enforcement**

The parking lots would be monitored by City and Bylaw enforcement staff. Under the *Burnaby Parks Parking Regulation Bylaw 1991* (the "Parks Parking Regulation Bylaw"), a person is prohibited from parking a motor vehicle in a park in contravention of a sign that prohibits parking. As part of the implementation of the parking reservation system project, PRC will install signage in the reservation area which will notify visitors that vehicles without a reservation are prohibited from parking in the reserved parking lot. Signage will also be placed in the other parking lots setting out parking time limits. It is proposed that enforcement of violations of the parking restrictions set out in the

Parks Parking Regulation Bylaw be through the issuance of bylaw violation notices. To enable this, it is recommended that Council direct the City Solicitor to bring forward amendments to the following bylaws:

- (1) *Burnaby Parks Parking Regulation Bylaw 1991*, to repeal section 6, which currently imposes a fine of ten dollars for every person convicted of a violation of the Parks Parking Regulation Bylaw; and
- (2) *Burnaby Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw 2009*, to permit the issuance of bylaw violation notices for violations of sections 3(1), 3(2), 3(3) of the Parks Parking Regulation Bylaw. The recommended penalty amounts for violations of these sections of the Parks Parking Regulation Bylaw are set out in Attachment 4.

The amendment bylaws appear elsewhere on this Council agenda for Council consideration of first, second and third reading.

#### 4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A communications strategy will be developed to raise awareness, notify of any program changes, as well as receive feedback on the Barnet Marine Park Parking Reservation Program. Staff will also continue to work with the City's Communications staff on encouraging alternate modes of transportation to Barnet Marine Park, including carpooling, transit, and cycling.

#### 5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The budget required for 2024 is outlined in the table below:

Phase 1 Budget Item	Estimated Cost
Onsite staff (RCMP, Bylaw, and PRC)	\$250,000
Additional Traffic Management Control (To address traffic congestion and queuing along Barnet Highway)	\$158,000
Feasibility study of parking lot digital display signs	\$50,000
Site Improvements (Road markings, Signage etc.)	\$30,000
<b>Subtotal (Phase 1 Budget)</b>	<b>\$488,000</b>
Estimated Revenue - Parking Enforcement Violation Fines	(\$30,000)
<b>Total (Budget Net of Enforcement Revenue)</b>	<b>\$458,000</b>

The cost to manage parking is included in various operating accounts within the 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan under the PRC department for \$250,000, primarily for RCMP, PRC and Bylaw staff. There will be additional funding requirements of \$208,000 and staff will look to accommodate within operating budgets for 2024 to complete Phase One of the program.

Staff will be monitoring the compliance with parking regulations and making adjustments to staffing as required. It is anticipated that once visitors to the park are used to the regulations, the need for staff, RCMP, and traffic management support on site will diminish.

Staff will be bringing forward a budget for Phase 2 once a cost for the purchase and administration of a software program is determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morrison-Clark, General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – Barnet Marine Park Reservation Program - Existing Parking Lot Map

Attachment 2 – Barnet Marine Park Reservation Program - Park Visitor Counts

Attachment 3 – Barnet Marine Park Reservation Program – Phase 1 & 2 Parking Options.

Attachment 4 – Barnet Marine Park Reservation Program – Bylaw Fees

## **REPORT CONTRIBUTORS**

This report was jointly prepared by André Kolbér, Manager Parks Operations, Mark Riekman, Supervisor Parks Operations, Jason Collins, Parks Project Coordinator, Avery Brown, Parks Project Coordinator, and reviewed by Steve Bruneau, Director Parks, Dan Layng, Chief Licence Inspector, Kathy Ho, Senior Manager Transportation Engineering, and Jennifer Wong, Assistant City Solicitor.