

Council Memo

Fort Williams Park

Site Improvements / Head Light Parking

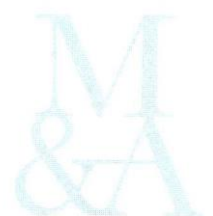
The proposed improvements have been designed to accommodate for the increased number of tour buses that visit the Fort and Portland Headlight and enhance visitor parking and pedestrian accessibility. The existing bus drop-off, parking area accommodates approximately six buses at a given time. Currently buses from the increased number of cruise ships has put a strain on the ability to park buses with some relegated to the visitor parking lot.

The existing gravel lot for passenger vehicles does not function at the optimal number of parking spaces due to lack of delineation. In addition, the gravel lot requires regular yearly maintenance to regrade surface to address erosion and ruts that occur during early spring conditions. The gravel surface also becomes very dusty during dry conditions.

Pedestrian improvements include additional sidewalk improvements to address accessibility, manage circulation and conflicts. The following is a summary of the proposed improvements:

Proposed Improvements:

- Redesign of drop-off and parking lot to provide bus parking and loading for 12 buses along the southerly and westerly edge of parking lot.
- Reconfigure parking to be more efficient providing 98 parking spaces, including 8 HC spaces (increase of 6 HC spaces).
- Parking lot will be paved and striped.
- The vehicular circulation for the parking lot will be one way with the existing southwesterly entrance as 'Enter Only' and southeasterly entrance opposite the main entry road as 'Exit Only'.



Pedestrian Circulation:

- An 8 foot wide sidewalk will be provided along the bus parking and loading area to provide safer circulation, especially for visitors with mobility concerns.
- A sidewalk along the northwesterly edge of the parking lot will direct visitors to the light house.
- To manage pedestrian circulation keeping individuals on walkway and out of the road a wood rail fence will be located along the curb line from the parking lot to the pedestrian crossing leading to the greeter pavilion.
- A new hand rail will be provided along the existing sloped 8 FT wide sidewalk leading from the parking lot to head light. Railing to provide assistance for individuals with mobility concerns.
- Benches are being provided along the bus drop-off and along the walkway leading to the head light.
- The existing stone dust path from the end of the paved sidewalk to the observation area by the lighthouse will be paved. This area has a drainage problem that impacts accessibility.

Drainage Improvements:

- New stormwater infrastructure improvements have been designed to address the runoff from the parking lot and roadways. Currently, the majority is sheet flow that runs across the parking lot and along the curb line discharging by parking at the lighthouse.
- To address a level of water quality treatment, stormwater filter units will be install in all new catch basin structures.

Portable Toilets:

- The existing portable toilet will be relocated to the parking lot off the bus drop-off area.
- This location will provide better service accessibility which occurs frequently during peak season.
- The portable units will be screened by a solid wood fence.