



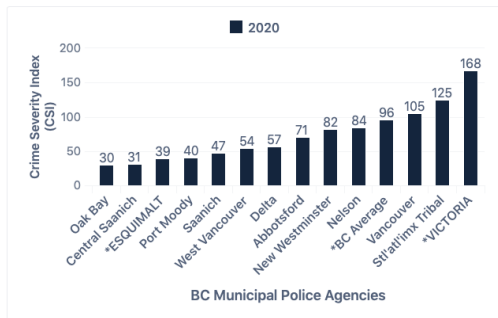
# September 2021 Update North Park

## In Your Neighbourhood

### VicPD Second Quarter Report

Victoria Police presented their second quarter report to Council on September 2. The report provided a number of charts indicating trends in police-related services.

Crime Severity Index



Source: Statistics Canada (data is the most recent available)

- Social order** – call types include disturbance, man down, unwanted person, etc.
- Violence** – call types include assault, sexual assault, robbery, etc.
- Property** – call types include break and enters, theft from vehicles, theft of vehicles, etc.
- Traffic** – call types include collision response, impaired driving and other traffic offences.
- Assist** – call types include requests to assist BC Emergency Health Services paramedics, Parole, other police departments, etc.
- Other** – calls are those which do not fit into the categories above.

### City Support for Neighbourhoods

As part of Council’s resolutions relating to neighbourhood boundaries, Council *“...request(ed) staff to work with neighbourhood associations and report back on options for supporting them in outreaching and serving parts of their neighbourhood that are currently under-represented by their current function and services.* It’s City staff’s understanding that Council is looking for actions that can be undertaken quickly, rather than embarking on a deep dive into this subject. With this in mind, staff would like input from each neighbourhood association in terms of specific ways that the City can help support you in better *reaching out to and serving your neighbourhoods.* For example, one idea that has been mentioned is promotion of neighbourhood associations on the City website or through annual tax notices.

The City would like submissions from neighbourhood association boards by the end of September. South Jubilee is organized a meeting for Thursday September 9th from 5-6pm for those who are interested in sharing thoughts and ideas.

### September Community Virtual

Graffiti is an expensive form of vandalism that is difficult to manage. It detracts from the appearance and image of the city for both residents and visitors. In this session you will learn about the City’s VTAG (Victoria Together Against Graffiti) program that includes participation from residents, property owners and business owners. We will look at the creative ways graffiti is being removed in neighbourhoods and how you can get involved. Join us Wednesday, September 15, noon – 1:30pm. Register through our website [here](#).

### Community Gardens

On August 5, staff reported back to Council on options for increasing cultivation of food and pollinator plants on municipal land. The [report](#) notes that progress is being made and made suggestions for increase the Get





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Growing seedling distribution program, provide start-up funding for the Food Tree Stewardship program, and to

Food Systems Target Areas	2019 Benchmark	2021 Status	2022 Target
Neighborhoods with a community garden	77%	85%	85%
Neighborhoods with allotment gardens	38%	54%	75%
Number of allotment plots in the City	230	290	460
Neighborhoods with community food trees	31%	61%	100%

revise the Volunteer Coordinator grant program to a garden-based application process.

Council approved the reports recommendations for consideration in the 2022 budget also directed staff to:

“...report back as part of the 2022 budget on the resource requirements for enhanced city-led support for the design, installation and operations of Food Forests and allotment gardens on City land including options for the enhanced planting and stewardship of food- bearing trees in the City-managed urban forest.”

### Parks Rehabilitation

On September 9, Council will receive a [report](#) on addressing impacts of parks incurred through encampments of homeless individuals. The study of damage identified 140 sites in 10 parks requiring remediation and estimates it will take four years to complete the work. A budget of \$535,000 is being requested to begin undertaking this work in 2022. There are no parks in the North Park neighbourhood identified for remediation.

### Community Board Member Wanted

The City of Victoria is seeking a volunteer to serve as a representative on the Victoria and Esquimalt Police Board. The goal is help the Police Board reflect community demographics with qualified people who have shown they can act in the public’s interest.

The Police Board performs four main governance functions:

- It is the employer of police department staff and is responsible for negotiating the collective agreement with the police union
- In consultation with the Chief Constable, it sets priorities, goals and objectives for the police department
- It prepares and submits a provisional budget for Council approval
- It has authority for police service and policy complaints.



Board members attend monthly meetings and are required to read background materials and meeting minutes. Candidates must reside in the City of Victoria and the minimum term is one year. Applications must be received by Monday, September 27, 2021. Learn more here:





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<https://www.victoria.ca/EN/meta/news/news-archives/2021-news/now-recruiting-victoria-and-esquimalt-police-board.html>

### **Yard Waste Is In!**

Starting September 13, residents receiving curbside waste collection can add yard waste to their green bin. Hooray! The City will continue to offer the Helping Hands Program to households that require assistance moving their bins to and from the curb. And yard and garden waste drop-off service will also continue to be available at the Public Works Yard (417 Garbally Road) from 7:00am to 2:00pm on Saturdays.

Curbside yard waste collection is expected to divert close to 400 tonnes of organic material from the landfill each year and will help meet the City's zero waste and climate action goals.

### **Participatory Budgeting**

Submissions for funding through the participatory budgeting process have been vetted and will be presented to the community for voting in September. The community-based Participatory Budgeting Steering Committee sought proposals for projects of several cost thresholds to enhance and enrich neighbourhood spaces throughout Victoria with a total fund of \$50,000 available. Participatory Budgeting gives the entire community the opportunity to vote on how to invest a portion of the City budget in projects that matter to the people who live here. You can learn about Participatory Budgeting at [www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/city-grants/participatory-budgeting.html](http://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/city-grants/participatory-budgeting.html).

### **Council Meetings**

The last Committee of the Whole was on August 5<sup>th</sup>. September Committee of the Whole meetings are scheduled for September 2, 9 and 23, with one Council evening meeting on the September 9<sup>th</sup>.