

NEWS RELEASE

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City installs beach accessibility mats in parks around Nanaimo

Summary

City of Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture crews have installed Mobi Mats® at three new locations - Colliery Dam Park, Neck Point Park and Loudon Park.

A Mobi-Mat® is a seasonally installed, non slip walkway made from recycled material and helps those with wheels (wheelchairs, strollers, wagons, kayak trailers) to be able to more easily access the beach area. These mats were installed following the successful pilot of one on Departure Bay Beach last summer, which has returned this year near the Kin Hut Activity Centre.

The Departure Bay Beach mat has been upgraded and now features a "landing spot", which is an area suitable for resting or picnicking. In Loudon Park, the mat provides access to the beach and swimming area and is located beside the accessible fishing dock and accessible washroom building. The Neck Point mat can be found on Finn beach and is accessible from the parking lot. This amenity compliments the new accessible washroom opened earlier this year. Finally, located at the sandy swimming beach on the south side of Lower Colliery Dam, the mat and other access improvements in Colliery Dam Park were partially funded by a generous donation of \$5,000 from the Colliery Dam Park Preservation Society.

The mats will be in place through the summer season.

Strategic Link: The City of Nanaimo is committed to a community that has equitable access to the many recreation opportunities within our parks and throughout the city.

Key Points

- A Mobi-Mat® is a seasonally installed, non slip walkway.
- The locations for the new mats were selected based on their popularity and suitability for installation.
- When using the mat, if possible, it is recommended getting assistance due to the grade and the uneven ground under the mat.

Quotes

"The installation of the Mobi-Mats® is another example of how the City is working to make accessibility improvements. It is helpful for those in wheelchairs, those with strollers or those with wagons or kayak trailers, and I am sure they will be well used by many members of our community."

Leonard Krog
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

Continued... City installs beach accessibility mats in parks around Nanaimo

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