Seattle Parks and Recreation
Mission Essential Function
Social Distancing Ambassador (SDA) Program
Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Keep Parks Open!

• When Stay Home – Stay Healthy started, Mayor Durkan asked us to do everything possible to keep our parks open.

• We launched the Social Distancing Ambassador Program, which quickly grew to a program with 17 parks and about 50-100 shifts per day.

• On the second weekend – Easter – we closed our major regional parks and assessed the outcome.

• Following Easter, we reopened all parks and have continued 7 days/week since.

• Beginning May 8, we changed to an 8PM closure time for our regional parks.
SDA Role Overview

• Provide friendly info about social distancing policies (SDAs are not enforcers, not rangers, not police – just friendly staff)
• Rove through designated parks and encourage patrons to honor 6 feet of physical distance rule
• Directly connect with groups ignoring the 6’ rule
• Submit data hourly on the conditions in the park
• Have a phone where you can hear it; respond to calls/texts from fellow ambassadors and other SPR staff
Additional Support for SDA effort

• Selected managers check in by phone and in person with Ambassadors, help solve problems and address issues.

• A Division Director, serving as liaison to Seattle Police, Traffic Control and Animal Control, is go-to person for growing problems needing additional action (excessive crowding, lots of illegal parking, etc). Ambassadors are given his cell #.

• Weekly, the Superintendent and Division Director establish a plan with Seattle Police – primarily for the weekends – to support the SDA Program with roving mobile police on bicycles and horses, and with dispatching Animal Control and Parking Enforcement.
Talking Points

• Say hi. Introduce yourself as a Parks employee
• MAIN MESSAGE: Please practice physical distancing of 6’ and keep it moving!
• This is for everyone except families and household roommates.
• Here’s what 6 feet looks like
• We really want to keep our parks open so folks have places to get outdoors. We can only do that if people use the space safely.
• Stopping the spread of the virus means we must change the way we use our parks right now.
• The last thing we want is to have our parks be the cause of more people getting sick.
• We get it, it’s spring time! You’re sick of being indoors! But slowing the spread of COVID-19 is STILL our #1 goal.
Talking points cont’d

• Park is closing at 8PM now. We’re encouraging people to use the parks as places to keep moving and NOT as places to congregate or hang out.

• If you want to picnic and enjoy the summer evening, please do that in your local neighborhood park.

• This park can get really crowded and we don’t want to have to close it down. We’re asking everyone to use it as a place to enjoy and move through.
## Scheduling: Shared Online Spreadsheet

### Districts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>1 Southwest</th>
<th>2 Southwest</th>
<th>3 Southwest</th>
<th>4 Central West</th>
<th>5 Central</th>
<th>6 Central</th>
<th>7 Central East</th>
<th>8 Central East</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9:30am-10pm</td>
<td>Janine Koma</td>
<td>Lincoln Park</td>
<td>GITAN SAVERS &amp; SEWARD</td>
<td>Kubota Gardens</td>
<td>Discovery Park</td>
<td>Edmonds</td>
<td>Arlington Park</td>
<td>Volunteer Park</td>
<td>Arboretum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrusday</td>
<td>10:30am-10pm</td>
<td>Janine Koma</td>
<td>Lincoln Park</td>
<td>GITAN SAVERS &amp; SEWARD</td>
<td>Kubota Gardens</td>
<td>Discovery Park</td>
<td>Edmonds</td>
<td>Arlington Park</td>
<td>Volunteer Park</td>
<td>Arboretum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:30am-10pm</td>
<td>Janine Koma</td>
<td>Lincoln Park</td>
<td>GITAN SAVERS &amp; SEWARD</td>
<td>Kubota Gardens</td>
<td>Discovery Park</td>
<td>Edmonds</td>
<td>Arlington Park</td>
<td>Volunteer Park</td>
<td>Arboretum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Smaller Parks
- **Saturday:** 2:30-7pm
  - Lincoln Park
  - Volunteer Park
- **Sunday:** 9:00-12pm
  - Lincoln Park
  - Volunteer Park

### Larger Parks
- **Saturday:** 5:00-7pm
  - Lincoln Park
  - Volunteer Park
- **Sunday:** 9:00-12pm
  - Lincoln Park
  - Volunteer Park

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Routine Check Report: Online Link (MS Form)

SPR Social Distancing (SDA)
Used to report on social behaviors in highly popular parks.

1. Park Location *

   Carkeek Park - 1237

2. Carkeek Park Sub-Area
   Sub-area of the park
   - Lower (Airplane field and meadow)
   - Upper (Loop with picnic shelter/play area)
   - Trails
   - Beach

Next
## Direct Intervention Report

### SPR Social Distancing (SDA)

Used to report on social behaviors in highly popular parks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Park Location *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carkeek Park -1227</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2. Carkeek Park Sub-Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-area of the park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower (Airplane field and meadow)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper (Loop with picnic shelter/play area)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Direct Intervention

**4. Interventions Group**

Indicate the reason for the direct intervention and the number of people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interventions Group</th>
<th>Up to 5</th>
<th>Up to 10</th>
<th>Up to 25</th>
<th>Over 50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Picnic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play Structure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball/Softball Games</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Parking Lot Gathering</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Organized Gathering (exercise class, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate park</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**5. Action Taken**

- Asked to Disperse
- Complimented
- Social Distancing Reminder
- Called 911

City of Seattle
This report shows the social distancing observations at various Seattle Parks by the Social Distancing Ambassadors (SDA) and SPR staff. Parks are broken into two tiers: Tier One includes the regional and other popular parks, while Tier Two has all other parks. The report is filtered to show the last seven days. To see more dates, use the filter on the right. Information is pulled from the Seattle Parks and Recreation Social Distancing online forms (SDA and Grounds Manager) every 30mins starting at 8am till 8:30pm.
SDA Lessons Learned – Planning Ahead

• If conducting this program as paid work, engage unions early regarding shift changes, scope of work.
• Establish a management structure: Who’s scheduling. / Who’s managing people in the field.
• How will information be shared with SDAs (for training, and daily updates)
• Provide good signage in the parks to support ambassadors (new rules, clear messages).
• Set up a way to track costs. (May qualify for federal reimbursement.)
Being an ambassador is not easy!

• Ambassadors need support, recognition, and opportunities to share experiences and ask questions.
• Daily, central dispatch meetings on SKYPE help us keep ambassadors informed and let them ask questions.
• Regional managers provide daily support.
• As the program continues, we’ll be looking for more ways to keep ambassadors connected, informed, and supported.