

ITEM 7
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 55
COUNCIL MEETING Sept. 7/76

Re: FRASER RIVER FORESHORE PARK PROJECT

Following is a report from the Director of Planning regarding the Fraser River Foreshore Park Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report item be tabled until the Council Meeting of September 13, 1976 at which time a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission can be provided.

* * * * *

Planning Department
September 2, 1976

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING
RE: FRASER RIVER FORESHORE PARK PROJECT

On February 18, 1976, the Parks and Recreation Commission approved the following:

1. A recommended development plan for the section of the Fraser River Foreshore Park between Byrne Road and Tillicum Avenue (Plan No. 92-4-2).
2. The submission of this project to the North Fraser Recreation Policy Committee for the consideration of a development grant.
3. The inclusion of this project in the first year of a future Referendum By-law in the net amount of \$50,864.

It was indicated to the Commission that the proposed project had received preliminary approval for a grant on the following basis:

- a) That the costs will be shared one-third by the North Fraser Harbour Commission, one-third by the Community Recreational Facilities Fund Act, and one-third by the home Municipality.
- b) That the home Municipality guarantee that their funds will be available and the project commenced in the calendar year 1976.

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The projected 1976 construction cost, including directional and project identification signs is \$122,738. Burnaby's share, under this arrangement, would be one-third of this amount, or \$40,913.

The Municipal Council at its meeting of May 25, 1976 approved this proposal and allocated on an interim basis, \$40,913 to the 1976 park development funds for this project. In addition a letter from His Worship, Mayor T. W. Constable dated May 28, 1976 (see attached) was forwarded to the North Fraser Recreation Study Policy Committee indicating the Municipality's commitment to this project.

At the Policy Committee Meeting held on May 31, 1976 which was convened to obtain final approval for this and other priority projects, the Minister of Recreation and Travel Industry indicated that Provincial funding assistance for these projects under the Community Recreation Facilities Fund Act would not be available during 1976. However, the Minister did agree to explore alternate means of obtaining Provincial support for these projects.

It appears that the Minister has explored other possible sources of Provincial funds, but the only available means are unexpended funds for assisting Regional Park Programs. (see attached letter dated August 18, 1976). It was therefore suggested that if the North Fraser area were designated a regional park area under Section 18 of the Regional Parks Act (see attached), it would be possible to provide the Provincial share from this source. The G.V.R.D. in responding to this proposal have suggested that an official Regional Park Designation By-law be adopted that designates a North Fraser Recreation Corridor. This by-law would identify the limits of the Corridor and the first priority projects to be carried out by the participating Municipalities. The following conditions have been proposed by the G.V.R.D. to apply with respect to the adoption of such a By-law:

1. The use of this by-law shall not preclude the implementation of future projects under other shared funding projects, such as the Community Recreation Facilities Fund, so long as these are consistent with the overall Corridor concept and have the agreement of the North Fraser Policy Committee, the respective Councils and the Minister of Recreation and Travel Industry;
2. The respective Municipalities shall retain all authority and responsibility for design, construction, operation and maintenance of Municipal recreation sites within the Corridor;
3. The G.V.R.D. shall retain responsibility for Regional Park projects or the projects of any of its other departments, which are complementary to the North Fraser Corridor concept;
4. The G.V.R.D. shall exercise no authority or jurisdiction of any kind over Municipal sites developed and financed by a Municipality with this financial aid of the Provincial Government and North Fraser Harbour Commission save and except in input made by Regional District representatives at the Policy Committee. The G.V.R.D. shall not assume any legal or financial obligations with respect to any of these Municipal sites.

In considering the proposed adoption of an official Regional Park Designation By-law to create the North Fraser Recreation Corridor designation, the North Fraser Policy Committee resolved that this proposal should be referred back to the respective Municipalities for their consideration and action. This matter is therefore being forwarded to the Municipal Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission for its consideration.

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Basically, the Recreation Corridor designation proposal has been advanced as a mechanism to obtain the Provincial portion of the proposed cost sharing arrangement. The North Fraser River Technical Committee, in retrospect, regrets however that the Corridor concept was not advanced earlier, independent of the funding question, as a statement of inter-municipal policy for the North Arm recreation area. The Planning Department supports the concept of establishing a recreational corridor designation on the North Fraser not only to facilitate existing and future funding proposals but as well to provide a statement of Regional policy that can be utilized to better coordinate the provision of recreational developments on the North Fraser.

The opportunities to initiate actions of inter-municipal significance such as signing programs, river boat educational tours and public access provision to appropriate private industrial waterfront lands may well be expanded by the adoption of a recreation corridor concept. The concept in no way is intended to or will impose regional authority over lands now administered by the Municipality but rather provide a statement of general policy, agreed to by the affected Municipalities, that can be used to facilitate funding and help accommodate both recreational and industrial activities on a more coordinated and integrated basis.

In the event that this approach is deemed inappropriate and therefore not adopted, the following implications would likely apply:

1. The foreshore park between Byrne Road and Tillicum Avenue could not be funded and development initiated during the current calendar year in accord with the proposed funding and development program.
2. To obtain the Provincial share of the projected park development cost, application would have to be made to the 1977 Community Recreation Facilities Fund Program.
3. The considerable level of interest and administrative support displayed by the Region and the Provincial Government toward the North Fraser Recreation Area would likely diminish should the participating Municipalities not support the Recreation Corridor designation.

In view of the foregoing, it is recommended that the Municipal Council authorize for consideration the preparation of an Official Regional Park Designation By-law creating the North Fraser Recreation Corridor subject to the conditions outlined below.

Due to the request from the Policy Committee that this matter be returned for its consideration at the earliest opportunity, staff have taken the liberty of submitting this item for inclusion on the Parks and Recreation Commission agenda for its meeting of September 8, 1976. It is intended that the Commission's position with respect to this matter can be obtained at that time and subsequently forwarded to Council at its meeting of September 13, 1976.

RECOMMENDATION

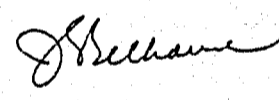
1. THAT Council authorize for consideration the preparation of an official Park Designation By-law entitled "Official Park Plan for the North Fraser Recreation Corridor" involving the appropriate lands within the Municipality of Burnaby, subject to the following stipulations and conditions:

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- a) the G.V.R.D. shall exercise no land use authority or jurisdiction of any kind over lands situated within the Municipality of Burnaby which are contained within the Corridor area;
 - b) the G.V.R.D. shall exercise no authority or jurisdiction of any kind over Municipal sites developed and financed by the Municipality of Burnaby with financial aid of the Provincial Government and North Fraser Harbour Commission save and except input made by Regional District representatives at the Policy Committee;
 - c) the proposed use of this by-law shall not preclude the advancement of future projects under other shared funding projects, such as the Community Recreation Facilities Fund.
 - d) The Municipality of Burnaby shall retain all authority and responsibility for design, construction, operation and maintenance of Municipal recreation sites within the Corridor;
 - e) the G.V.R.D. shall retain responsibility for Regional Parks projects or other departmental projects within the Corridor;
 - f) subsequent approval in principle of the by-law to be contingent upon the submission and approval of the final draft of the proposed by-law by the Municipal Council.
2. THAT this report item be tabled until the Council Meeting of September 13, 1976 at which time a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission can be provided.


A. L. Parr
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

JSB/dm
attach.

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

THOMAS W. CONSTABLE
MAYOR

BURNABY
BRITISH COLUMBIA
V5G 1M2

May 28, 1976

Chairman and Members
North Fraser Recreation Study Policy Committee

RE: NORTH FRASER RECREATION STUDY
PARK DEVELOPMENT IN THE BURNABY BIG BEND

Project C. 3 as contained within the report North Fraser Recreation Study: Actions Proposals relates to the recommended river park development of public lands in the Big Bend area of the Municipality of Burnaby. This project has been advanced by the North Fraser Recreation Study Technical Committee as a priority development for 1976.

The 1976 estimated construction costs, including directional and project identification signs, associated with this project is \$ 122,738. The Burnaby Municipal Council at its meeting of May 25, 1976 approved this development proposal and allocated \$ 40,913 to the 1976 park development funds for this project. This allocation was made on the understanding that the costs associated with the project will be shared one-third by the Municipality of Burnaby, one-third by the Community Recreational Facilities Fund Act and one-third by the North Fraser Fund.

The purpose of this letter is to indicate the Municipality's commitment to share in the funding of this project to the amount of \$ 40,913 and to respectfully request matching grants from the Community Recreational Facilities Fund Act and the North Fraser Fund in order that park development at this site can be commenced in the calendar year 1976.

It is my opinion that the priority development of this strategic river front area will not only provide a unique and interesting recreational opportunity but as well help promote the public's awareness, appreciation, and most importantly,

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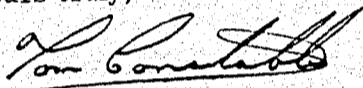
TO: Chairman and Members
North Fraser Recreation Study Policy Committee

May 28, 1976

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use of the North Fraser as a recreational resource.

Yours truly,



T. W. Constable,
MAYOR.

TWC/lm



Greater Vancouver Regional District

2294 WEST TENTH AVENUE VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA V6K 2H9 TELEPHONE 731-1155

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Please refer to our file number:

August 18, 1976

TO: North Fraser River Policy Committee Members

FROM: R. Hankin, Chairman
North Fraser River Technical Committee

A brief meeting of the Policy Committee is proposed on Tuesday, August 24, at 2:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the North Fraser Harbour Commission, south foot of Oak Street.

In discussion with Mayor MacDonald, it was decided to call this meeting to decide on the attached proposal for securing the provincial share of the cost of the proposed municipal recreation development projects for the North Fraser as discussed at the last Policy Committee meeting (May 31, 1976).

It appears the Minister has explored other possible sources of provincial funds. But the only available means are unexpended funds for assisting Regional Park Programs. Hence, she has suggested that if the plan for the North Fraser is designated under the Regional Park Act, it will be possible to provide the provincial share from this source.

The attached proposal therefore sets out in general terms guidelines for pursuing this course of action: it has been reviewed by the Provincial Parks Branch and is acceptable to them. If the Harbour Commission and Municipal representatives on the Policy Committee agree with this approach the GVRD Regional Park Committee and Board can be requested to adopt the required by-law to expedite the projects. It is hoped a decision can be made quickly, and if acceptable to you the proposal can be dealt with by the GVRD Regional Park Committee at its regular meeting on August 25, 1976.

c.c. North Fraser River Technical Committee Members
RH/lb
enclosures

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CHAP. 43

REGIONAL PARKS

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Official
regional
park plans

15. (1) Within five years of the formation of a Regional Parks Board or, in the case of those Regional Parks Boards already established under this Act, within five years of the coming into force of this section, the Regional Parks Board shall prepare a regional park plan and, with the approval of the Minister, designate, by by-law, the plan as an official regional park plan.

(2) A regional park plan may be expressed in maps, plans, reports, or by other means, and may be a general scheme, without specific detail, indicating present and projected regional parks.

(3) If, at the end of five years, a regional park district has failed to designate an official regional park plan, the Minister may withhold any further grants issued under section 13 of this Act until such time as an official plan is designated and approved. 1971, c. 50, s. 9.

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