ITEM 3
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 51
COUNCIL MEETING July 18/77

Re: TRAIL DEVELOPMENT - NORTH SIDE OF BURNABY LAKE

Following is a report from the Parks and Recreation Administrator dated July 7, 1977, concerning the above noted subject. This report and the attached report to the Parks and Recreation Commission arises from a Council enquiry from the meeting of June 13, 1977.

This is for the information of Council.

* * * * *

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

JULY 7, 1977

FROM: PARKS AND RECREATION ADMINISTRATOR

RE: TRAIL DEVELOPMENT - NORTH SIDE OF BURNABY LAKE

Reference is made to the resolution of Council, adopted at its meeting of June 13, 1977, asking the Parks and Recreation Commission what environmental or botanical study had been undertaken before deciding on where to place a trail on the north side of Burnaby Lake. The Commission received the attached report at its meeting of July 6, 1977, at which time the recommendation contained therein was adopted.

This report is for the information of Council:

Dennis Gaunt

Jenni Jet

AG:gl

ITEM 3
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 51
COUNCIL MEETING July 18/77

THEM 7
ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT NO. 15
COMMISSION MEETING JULY 6/77

RE: TRAIL DEVELOPMENT NORTH SIDE OF BURNABY LAKE

105

Appearing on the Commission Agenda for the 6th of July 1977 is a resolution of Council, adopted at its meeting of June 13, 1977,

"THAT the Parks and Recreation Commission be asked what environmental or botanical study has been undertaken in order to make the decision on where to place a trail on the north side of Burnaby Lake."

There have been no formal environmental impact studies done concerning the trails around Burnaby Lake. The sensitive areas are the shallow water, marsh fringes; and new trail access has not been constructed into these areas. A number of quite old, infrequently used, trails which were not developed by the Corporation penetrate into this fragile area and use of these trails is discouraged.

The trails which have been built to date have been confined to the higher, forested areas and have been developed with a view to permitting circumnavigation of the Lake. Direct access from these trails to the marsh has not been constructed, and thus there is minimal or no impact upon the ecosystem of the marsh areas.

There is one further stretch of trail required to complete the circumnavigation of the Lake. This will mark the end of one phase of trail building. It will then be necessary to examine the potential for the establishment of loops from the main trail into the marshy areas, and also the potential for the development of the trail which will cross the marsh on a proposed floating bridge, at approximately the point of the commencement of the Brunette River. It is anticipated that such trail construction would not necessarily take place until a more comprehensive nature study program has been developed, possibly in conjunction with the G.V.R.D., which should call for the appointment of a full-time naturalist. At that time, it will be necessary to review whether or not such trails can be built with minimal damage to the ecosystem and what level of damage is compatible with the dual objectives of preserving the natural area and conducting a nature study education program. It is agreed that such reviews should be undertaken by persons specializing in environmental studies, as applicable to the Burnaby Lake area.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to Council.