

PLANNING DEPARTMENT 1978 AUGUST 09 MANAGER'S BETOR

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MANAGER'S REPORT NO.

TO:

MUNICIPAL MANAGER

FROM:

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

SUBJECT:

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF A PORTION OF A VACANT LOT -

PARCEL "A", EXPL. PLAN 16112, BLOCK 43, D.L. 80, PLAN 10063

5571 SPRUCE STREET (SEE ATTACHED SKETCH)

Appearing on the 1978 August 14 Agenda is a report from the Parks and Recreation Administrator advising of the consideration given by the Parks and Recreation Commission to potential use of the referenced property for a minipark and as part of the pedestrian walkway system included in the Linear Park Study currently being prepared by the Planning Department.

As noted in the Administrator's report, the Commission has concluded that the property is not required for development of a mini-park, and further that the Commission supports the retention of a pedestrian access through Parcel "A" as part of the Municipal sidewalk system.

In the previous report to Council (Item 6, Manager's Report No. 52, Council Meeting 1978 07 17) the following observations were made:

- The retention of Parcel "A" as part of a projected walkway system to serve the area has been proposed on a number of occasions in the past.
- This property contains an existing pathway and is presently used as an access route to Douglas Road School by children in the area.
- 3. A walkway facility through this property is included in the Linear Park Study which is currently being prepared in draft form for discussion with Parks staff and consideration by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Council is advised that this property, in addition to serving a present need for access through the area by school children en route to and from Douglas Road School, also has a role in the draft Linear Park Study as a portion of a primary trail system link.

In light of the Commission's view that the lot is not required for mini-park purposes, and in order to determine what portion or portions of Parcel "A" could be available for disposition to abutting owners after development of a suitable walkway through the property, it would be appropriate at this time to undertake a design study for the walkway facility. Such a study would need to give consideration to an appropriate alignment, suitable provisions for setbacks, buffering and screening of a public walkway facility with respect to adjacent and/or contemplated adjacent dwellings, landscaping, and the possibility of pathway lighting for safety and convenience purposes. In conjunction with such a design, staff would propose to contact the abutting owners to the east and west of the proposed walkway to determine their interest in acquiring any surplus portions of land that might result, in order to be in a position to advise Council in a future report.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

## It is recommended THAT

- the Planning Department be directed to pursue a design for the required walkway and to report back to Council on the potential for disposal of any portions of Parcel "A" that may be redundant from the point of view of public need for walkway development, and
- 2. Council advise Mr. Harris that Council is not prepared at this time to approve the sale of a portion of Parcel "A", but that this will be the subject of further consideration by Council in the future.

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING.

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