

ITEM 2
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 70
COUNCIL MEETING 89/10/30

RE: INFORMATION ON DISPOSAL OF EXPO SITE SOIL

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. that the recommendation of the Chief Public Health Inspector be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1989 OCTOBER 23

FROM: CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON DISPOSAL OF EXPO SITE SOIL

PURPOSE: TO PROVIDE COUNCIL WITH INFORMATION ON WHETHER AREAS OF THIS MUNICIPALITY RECEIVED SOILS FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OF EXPO.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

REPORT

During the enquiry period of the 1989 June 05 regular meeting of Municipal Council, Alderman D. Drummond requested staff to investigate and provide Council with information regarding the News Media report of possible dumping of Expo fill material at the foot of Penzance Drive and in the Big Bend area of this Municipality.

The following summarizes the research and testing conducted to date by the Environmental Health Division on this subject.

SITE A - FOOT OF PENZANCE DRIVE

Research on the placement of fill at Goodwin Johnson Ltd. revealed that in 1984, the Federal Fisheries Department ordered all dumping of aggregate material to stop. Discussions with company officials have revealed no evidence of this area receiving fill from the Expo site.

SITE B - BIG BEND AREA

Environmental Health Division staff have spent considerable hours attempting to find documentation which would confirm or negate the reports that this area received Expo fill. Records kept by the City of Vancouver and Ministry of Environment are very limited and cannot be used to determine if Expo soils were used for fill material at sites in our Municipality.

Examination of fill sites within the Big Bend area has revealed that taking into consideration the volumes of fill deposited from 1983, the Riverway Golf site could have received fill from the Expo site.

For the information of Council, from 1983 to date the amount of fill deposited at the golf course site is in excess of three million cubic yards. It is estimated by the site contractor that approximately 750 to 1,000 loads of fill per month were deposited.

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SPECIAL SAMPLING, RIVERWAY GOLF COURSE SITE

Although staff were unable to determine by record examination if the Riverway Golf Course site received soils during the construction of Expo, samples of a watercourse located at the subject site which receives drainage from the fill material were examined for environmental toxicity.

The analysis included toxicity testing for fish survival and determination of heavy metal content.

The laboratory results revealed that the watercourse located at Riverway Golf Course site has waters classified as non-toxic.

Staff have concluded that fill deposited to date at the site is not presenting an environmental or health problem to the nearby watercourses.

The results of the analysis are available in the Environmental Health Division office.

CONCLUSION

Taking into consideration the volumes of fill material received since 1983, staff are of the opinion that one area in this Municipality, the Riverway Golf Course site had the potential to receive Expo soils for fill material.

Analysis of a watercourse located within the Golf Course site reveals that the fill material deposited to date is not presenting an environmental or health problem.

It is recommended that a copy of this report be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

GVH/gi

cc: Medical Health Officer
Director Administrative &
Community Services
Director Recreation &
Cultural Services

George U. Harvie

G.V. Harvie, C.P.H.I.(C)
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR