

ITEM 10
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 17
COUNCIL MEETING 90/03/05

RE: PROPOSAL TO DISPOSE OF CHRISTMAS TREES BY THE I.O.D.E.

ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendations of the Director Recreation & Cultural Services be adopted.

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1990 FEBRUARY 22

TO : MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM : DIRECTOR RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES
RE : PROPOSAL TO DISPOSE OF CHRISTMAS TREES BY THE I.O.D.E.
PURPOSE: To request Council's concurrence in not participating in the proposal by the I.O.D.E. to dispose of Christmas trees.

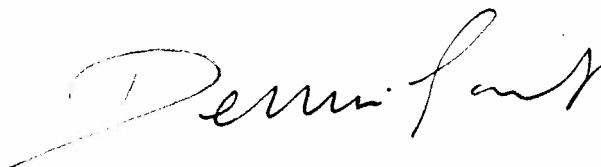
RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT the Corporation not participate in this proposal as outlined by the I.O.D.E. for reasons of liability.
2. THAT the George VI Coronation Chapter I.O.D.E. be so advised.
3. THAT the subject of tree disposal be referred to the Environment and Waste Management Committee.

REPORT

At its meeting of 1990 February 21, the Parks and Recreation Commission received the attached report on the above subject and adopted the four recommendations contained therein.

The Parks and Recreation Department will provide the Environment and Waste Management Committee with any reports required to assist the Committee with its deliberations on this matter.



DENNIS GAUNT
Director Recreation &
Cultural Services

DG:hh
Attach.

c.c.
Director Engineering

RE: PROPOSAL TO DISPOSE CHRISTMAS TREES BY THE IODE

RECOMMENDATIONS:

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1. THAT the Corporation not participate in this proposal as outlined by the IODE for reasons of liability.
2. THAT the George VI Coronation Chapter IODE be so advised.
3. THAT the subject of tree disposal be referred to the Environment and Waste Management Committee.
4. THAT Council be asked to concur.

REPORT

Appearing under correspondence is a letter addressed to Council from the George VI Coronation Chapter IODE, which outlines a proposal to dispose of Christmas trees in Burnaby. The Chapter would set up and staff depots to receive residents' trees. The Corporation's support has been requested with respect to providing Parks Board equipment to reduce the trees to mulch, after which we would receive it for use in our system.

The IODE would collect a nominal fee for this service of perhaps \$1.00 from each resident, which would support other charity work in this locality.

This proposal has benefit to the environment by offering an alternative to burning the trees or disposing of them in a land fill. We would certainly agree that this could be a viable alternative; however, our participation is not recommended due to the liability involved in the use of Corporation equipment. Such use of this equipment is dangerous and it could not be safely loaned for volunteer use. It would necessitate Corporation staff time, which renders the project economically inefficient. The IODE Chapter may be able to organize this project through the private sector, or on a corporate donation basis. Failing this, consideration would be given to including the mulching of Christmas trees within the municipality's recycling program. Recognition and budgeting for this economic cost would be noted in the Municipal budget.

The G.V.R.D. has advertised a Request for Proposals for regional composting areas, and Burnaby had indicated support for such a program. Grass clippings and garden refuse which has been accepted at Stride Avenue would be diverted to these composting areas and the chipping and mulching of brush would be a likely part of this program. The chipping and mulching of Christmas trees could be done at these centres.

COUNCIL INQUIRIES

As a result of this letter, Council raised comment regarding other proposals with respect to Christmas trees. Alderman Young has suggested that a notice be put in the local newspaper each December encouraging residents to purchase live Christmas trees, which the Municipality would thereafter be happy to receive for replanting in priority areas. Last Christmas, one Lower Mainland merchant offered live trees for rent at a cost of \$25.00 per tree with a refund of \$10.00 when the tree was returned. The IODE proposal would not pertain to these ideas as it deals only with cut trees and does not anticipate receiving any live trees that could be reused.

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Council identified one priority area in need of trees: along Marine Way. Any live Christmas trees received could be used to beautify and provide noise attenuation for this route. Another letter received by Council at their last meeting from Mr. Steve Mancinelli makes mention of 200 trees that he will be donating to the Corporation. Marine Way would be a priority consideration if and when any of these donations are realized.

DWJ:d1

c.c. Engineering Dept.

