

ITEM 19  
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 54  
COUNCIL MEETING 92/08/24

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1992 August 19  
FROM: ACTING DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING Our File: 01.215.5  
SUBJECT: BURNABY'S GREEN ZONE DESIGNATIONS

PURPOSE: To provide background on the GVRD's Green Zone as part of the Regional Strategic Plan and to obtain the Council's concurrence with Burnaby's proposed Green Zone designations for inclusion within the Region's Green Zone framework.

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council approve the Green Zone areas identified in Appendix 1 and Figure 1 of this report for forwarding to the GVRD, Development Services Department as Burnaby's component of the GVRD's proposed Green Zone framework.
2. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Commission for information.

R E P O R T

1.0 BACKGROUND

At the Regular Council Meeting held on 1992 August 10, Council received a report on Burnaby's Green Zone designations (Manager's Report No. 52, Item 27) and referred the report back to staff for comment on the designation of Montrose Park, the land west of Kensington, and green space abutting creeks as elements of Burnaby's Green Zone. This amended report addresses these questions in the context of Burnaby's Green Zone designations and provides additional information on tools available to Burnaby for protecting green space at the local level.

2.0 CONTEXT

Over the last 15 years regional growth management has been guided by the Livable Region Strategy. The Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) has been undertaking a review of this strategy through the Choosing Our Future/Creating Our Future process. During this process, the residents of Greater Vancouver spoke out strongly about the need to protect the region's green spaces from urban sprawl. The GVRD Board has requested that the region's municipalities collectively establish a Green Zone that will define the geographic limits of urban expansion in the region and protect our important green lands.

The purpose of this report is to define Burnaby's Green Zone lands for submission to the GVRD. Staff have reviewed the Municipality's major open space, parks and conservation areas and have included those areas of regional significance that meet the criteria as established in section 3 of this report.

### 3.0 DESIGNATING THE GREEN ZONE

#### 3.1 Green Zone Criteria

The GVRD's proposed Green Zone framework defines four major categories of green lands in Greater Vancouver. These are:

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- **community health lands**, including watersheds, floodplains and hazard lands,
- **recreation and scenic lands**, including major parks and key green areas that are essential to the scenic vistas and visual character of our region,
- **ecologically important lands**, including wetlands, and critical wildlife and bird habitat areas, and
- **renewable resource lands**, including agriculture and forestry lands.

#### 3.2 Guidelines for Applying Criteria at Municipal Level

To assist in the application of these criteria in the individual municipalities, the GVRD has indicated that lands designated by Council for future full urban development should not be included within the Green Zone designation. Nor should semi-rural areas, such as one acre residential lots outside the Agricultural Land Reserve, which are viewed as transitional uses which are likely to be oriented towards intensification of use rather than a return to a natural state.

As a general rule of thumb, it has been indicated that Green Zone lands should be clearly significant at the regional level, with some latitude given for municipalities to include areas of significance down to the Municipal-wide or sub-regional level.

The GVRD has indicated that inclusion of Green Zone lands within the Regional Strategic Plan is being done on a policy basis rather than to provide an additional level of regulatory control over the use of those lands.

#### 3.3 Defining the GVRD Green Zone

The GVRD will consolidate the municipal inventories into a regional inventory of Green Zone lands. This information will be analyzed and a report will be submitted to the GVRD Development Services and Transportation Committee in fall, 1992. The Green Zone report will then be submitted to the GVRD Board, probably in October, 1992.

A public conference on the Regional Strategic Plan: Directions and Options for Land Use and Transportation is scheduled for late November, 1992. The proposed GVRD Green Zone will be discussed at that conference.

#### 4.0 BURNABY'S PROPOSED GREEN ZONE

Burnaby's proposed Green Zone designations are shown on Figure 1 and Appendix 1.

The proposed Green Zone Lands incorporate the following:

- a. The six major park areas of Burnaby as identified in the Official Community Plan including:
  - . Barnet Marine Park
  - . Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area
  - . Burnaby Lake Regional Park and Burnaby Lake Sports Complex
  - . Deer Lake Park
  - . Central Park and
  - . Fraser River Foreshore Park
- b. The two 18 hole golf courses
  - . Burnaby Mountain Golf Course
  - . Riverway Golf Course
- c. Montrose Park and Confederation Park
- d. The Capitol Hill Conservation Area
- e. Robert Burnaby Park
- f. The George Derby/Brunette River Conservation lands
- g. The south slope ravines
- h. The Agricultural Land Reserve properties within the Big Bend Area
- i. Tributaries to Burrard Inlet, Burnaby Lake, Deer Lake and the Fraser River including abutting green space.

Staff has expanded the previously proposed Green Zone areas by including Montrose Park, Confederation Park and Municipal lands both west and east of Kensington Avenue.

With reference to the tributaries to Deer Lake, Burnaby Lake, Burrard Inlet and the Fraser River, all are considered to be of paramount importance in terms of their ecological and community health value. As illustrated in Figure 1 (attached), those more major watercourses, and their abutting lands, are proposed for inclusion in the Green Zone.

As indicated previously, the GVRD Green Zone is a policy initiative, not a regulatory control. Responsibility for land use decisions and protection of municipal green space will remain primarily a municipal responsibility. It is recognized that Figure 1 does not include some of the smaller watercourses. It is our view that these are still vitally important to the environment and that the protection of watercourses and abutting land can and should be addressed at the Municipal level.

Burnaby's watercourse protection bylaw, park dedications and Council's long-standing policy on maintaining watercourses in an open condition are critically important in protecting green space abutting watercourses of Municipal and regional significance. The proposed Official Community Plan update, the recently completed Environmentally Sensitive Areas Study, and the State of the Environment Report (now in its third and final phase) and the Parks Master Plan (currently under preparation) will provide the Municipality with additional opportunities to protect green space.

#### 4.1 Other Green Zone Lands

While Burrard Inlet and the Fraser River would not be considered as green lands under the GVRD's definition, it is our view that these waters do have significant ecological, recreation and scenic value for Burnaby and the region. It is recognized that these two waterways serve, and will continue to do so in the future, important commercial and industrial uses along the waterfront. However, it is also recognized that these waters must be managed to improve and maintain environmental quality. The inclusion of Burrard Inlet and the Fraser River as Green Zone areas would be supportive of initiatives such as the Burrard Inlet Environmental Action Program and the Fraser Basin Management Program and should be further evaluated by the GVRD.



D.G. Stenson, Acting Director  
PLANNING & BUILDING

BLS:SG\db

Attachment

cc: Director Recreation & Cultural Services

APPENDIX 1

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BURNABY'S PROPOSED GREEN ZONE

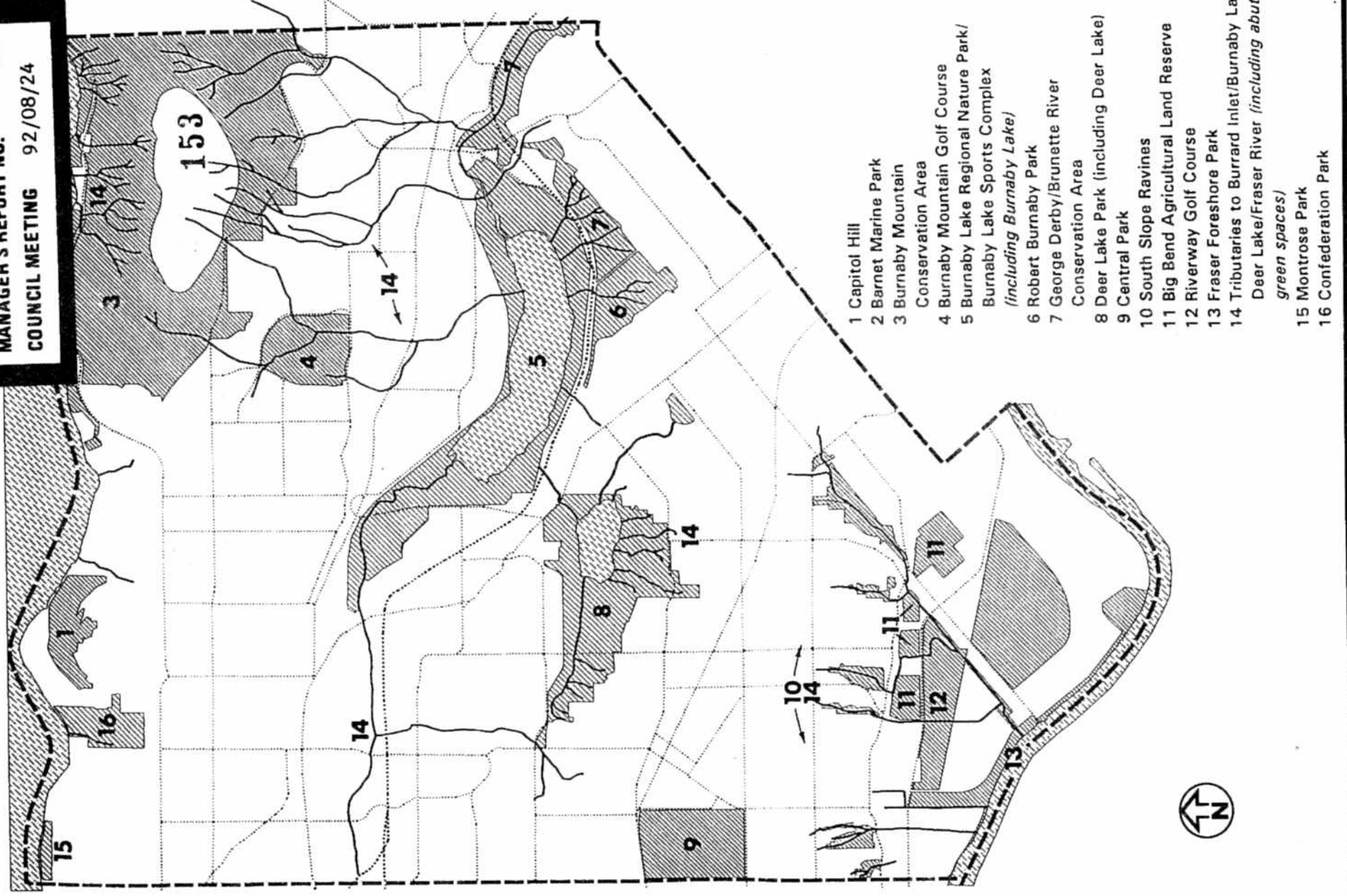
	<u>GREEN ZONE CATEGORY</u>			
	<u>BURNABY GREEN ZONE AREAS</u>	ECOL.	RECR.	RES. C.H.
1.	CAPITOL HILL CONSERVATION AREA	X	X	X
2.	BARNET MARINE PARK	X	X	X
3.	BURNABY MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION AREA	X	X	X
4.	BURNABY MOUNTAIN GOLF COURSE	X	X	
5.	BURNABY LAKE REGIONAL NATURE PARK (INCLUDING BURNABY LAKE) and BURNABY LAKE SPORTS COMPLEX	X	X	X
6.	ROBERT BURNABY PARK	X	X	
7.	GEORGE DERBY/BRUNETTE RIVER CONSERVATION AREA	X	X	X
8.	DEER LAKE PARK ( INCLUDING DEER LAKE)	X	X	X
9.	CENTRAL PARK	X	X	
10.	SOUTH SLOPE RAVINES	X	X	X
11.	BIG BEND AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE			X
12.	RIVERWAY GOLF COURSE		X	X
13.	FRASER FORESHORE PARK	X	X	
14.	TRIBUTARIES TO BURNABY LAKE, DEER LAKE, FRASER RIVER AND BURRARD INLET INCLUDING ABUTTING GREEN SPACES	X	X	X
15.	MONTROSE PARK	X	X	
16.	CONFEDERATION PARK	X	X	

ABUTTING WATER AREAS

BURRARD INLET	X	X
FRASER RIVER	X	X

[ECOL. = ecologically important lands; RECR. = recreational lands;  
RES. = renewal resource lands; C.H. = community health lands]

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- 1 Capitol Hill
- 2 Barnet Marine Park
- 3 Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area
- 4 Burnaby Mountain Golf Course
- 5 Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park/ Burnaby Lake Sports Complex (including Burnaby Lake)
- 6 Robert Burnaby Park
- 7 George Derby/Brunette River Conservation Area
- 8 Deer Lake Park (including Deer Lake)
- 9 Central Park
- 10 South Slope Ravines
- 11 Big Bend Agricultural Land Reserve
- 12 Riverway Golf Course
- 13 Fraser Foreshore Park
- 14 Tributaries to Burrard Inlet/Burnaby Lake/ Deer Lake/Fraser River (including abutting green spaces)
- 15 Montrose Park
- 16 Confederation Park



# GREEN ZONE AREAS

## MUNICIPALITY OF BURNABY

Date:	1992 08
Scale:	NTS
Drawn By:	RAI

FIGURE 1