

CITY OF BURNABY  
ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS

RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF BURNABY'S STATE OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT REPORT (SOER) - 1994 PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission receive the attached report for information.

R E P O R T

The Environment and Waste Management Committee, at its meeting of 1994 March 08, received and adopted the attached staff report providing information on 1994 departmental programs and initiatives that address the SOER recommendations and implementation strategy.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Drummond  
Chair

Councillor D. Johnston  
Member

Councillor D. Lawson  
Member

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- CITY MANAGER</li><li>- DIRECTOR ADMIN. &amp; COMMUNITY SERVICES</li><li>- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING</li><li>- DIRECTOR FINANCE</li><li>- DIRECTOR RECREATION &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES</li><li>- MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER</li><li>- CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER</li></ul>
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TO: ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1994 FEBRUARY 01

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING

OUR FILE: 11.001.1

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF BURNABY'S STATE OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT REPORT (SOER) - 1994 PROGRAMS  
AND INITIATIVES

PURPOSE: To inform the Environment and Waste Management Committee of 1994 departmental programs and initiatives that address the SOER recommendations and implementation strategy.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. THAT this report be received for information.
2. THAT this report be forwarded to Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission for their information.

**REPORT**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

Burnaby's State of the Environment Report (SOER) was initiated and coordinated through City Council's Environment and Waste Management Committee in 1990. The purpose of the SOER was to develop a comprehensive framework for identifying and addressing environmental issues and concerns in the City. Interested members of the community, elected officials, and City staff contributed to all phases of the SOER process. On 1993 September 13, Burnaby City Council adopted the State of the Environment Report (SOER) for Burnaby. The cornerstones of the SOER are environmental principles, vision statements, goals, and the implementation strategy and recommendations.

Subsequent to the adoption of the SOER, the Environment and Waste Management Committee requested City departments to identify programs and initiatives in their 1994 operating budgets that address the recommendations for implementation in Chapter 4 of the SOER. This report outlines these programs and initiatives for the Committee.

## **2.0 PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES**

Five recommendations for implementing the SOER in the City are included in Chapter 4 of the document. The following paragraphs outline 1994 programs and initiatives related to each recommendation.

### **Recommendation 1: Adoption of Policy Framework**

*"THAT Council adopt the environmental principles, vision statements and goals of the State of the Environment Report for Burnaby." - SOER, p. 61.*

At its regular meeting of 1993 September 13, Council adopted the policy framework presented in the SOER. This policy framework now defines a context for environmental decision-making for City initiatives, projects and plans. It is also anticipated that the environmental principles, vision statements and goals in the SOER will be reflected in the revision of Burnaby's Official Community Plan in 1995.

### **Recommendation 2: Environmental Audit and Operating Procedures**

*"THAT all City departments conduct environmental audits of their operations as the basis for developing programs to address the environmental principles, vision statements and goals of the SOER and submit reports on the audits and programs to the Environment and Waste Management Committee." - SOER, p. 62.*

#### **Staff Waste Reduction Committee (all City Hall departments)**

A Staff Waste Reduction Committee held its first meeting in 1993 November to identify specific ways to reduce and recycle waste within City Hall. The staff committee has initiated collection stations for newspaper, office paper and mixed paper recycling on each floor of City Hall. In 1994, the Committee will conduct a waste audit and put forward recommendations on further waste reduction and recycling strategies in City Hall.

#### **Health Department Audit (Health)**

The Health Department has established a cross-divisional committee to conduct a waste audit of all department activities. The committee will identify specific measures to reduce waste in all aspects of the department's operations.

Environmental Impact Assessment of Major Roads (Planning and Engineering)

As a part of the overall conceptual right-of-way and engineering design programs for major road upgrading projects, environmental impact assessment including design considerations with respect to noise attenuation, wildlife and fisheries protection, landscaping and air pollution will be undertaken. The Planning and Engineering Departments will collectively develop guidelines and terms of reference for environmental reviews for inclusion in the preliminary and engineering design services.

Public Works/Utility Construction Audit (Engineering)

With the objective to reduce construction waste, the Engineering Department will conduct waste audits of public works and utility construction projects to identify ways and means to reclaim and recycle construction wastes such as broken asphalt, concrete, crushed glass, native backfill materials, etc. Construction standards and procedures will also be reviewed to identify changes required to be consistent with the 3 R's strategy.

Traffic Management (Engineering)

As population in the Region continues to grow, one of the major considerations in preparing a sustainable development strategy is traffic management and alternative transportation. In 1994 the Engineering Department will develop design guidelines and action plans to improve public transportation, cycling and pedestrian access and signal progression within the City to help reduce air pollution and traffic congestion. This will provide a framework for an effective traffic management plan with due consideration to environmental principles.

Integrated Pest Management (Parks and Recreation, Engineering, Health, Planning and Building)

The adoption and implementation of an integrated pest management (IPM) program for the City will occur in 1994. Since early 1993, a consultant has been working closely with a multi-disciplinary staff committee to develop an IPM policy, identify pest problems on public and private lands in Burnaby, and develop an integrated pest management program. The IPM policy and program will be sent to the Environment and Waste Management Committee and then to City Council for adoption early in 1994. Many IPM measures and practices are currently in place in various Burnaby departments. These will continue, and IPM implementation will be expanded to include new measures outlined in the IPM policy and program once they have been adopted by Council.

Testing of recycled plastic products in park construction and street furniture (Parks and Recreation, Engineering)

Testing of recycled plastic products will include park benches and picnic tables and research into recycled rubber products including paving stones and resilient playground surfaces. The sign shop in the Works Yard has been testing recycled plastic for signs, planters and refuse containers.

**Recommendation 3: Environmental Information**

*"THAT the Environment and Waste Management Committee be authorized to develop a community-based program for sharing environmental information." - SOER, p. 62.*

Environmental Resource and Education Centre (City of Burnaby and Burnaby School Board)

The Environmental Resource and Education Centre on Still Creek Avenue next to Burnaby's recycling depot and the GVRD compost demonstration garden, is a City of Burnaby initiative in partnership with the Burnaby School Board. The Centre, scheduled to open in the spring of 1994, will provide a place for environmental programs and displays for school children, community groups, City committees and staff, and others. The Centre may also serve as an outlet for the distribution of environmental information.

Information on environmentally appropriate products (Purchasing)

Purchasing will continue to keep other City departments informed on the availability of environmentally appropriate products and services.

Information Burnaby articles on environmental topics (Planning and Building)

A series of articles on environmental topics and Burnaby's SOER will be run in Information Burnaby.

**Recommendation 4: Environmental Stewardship**

*"THAT the City develop a city-wide program for tree planting for boulevards, parks, conservation areas and other public lands and that the program include opportunities for participation by individuals, community groups and other agencies." - SOER, p. 63.*

*Planning and Building*

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Tree planting in Burnaby Parks (Parks and Recreation)

Tree planting will occur throughout the Burnaby park system. The 1994 budget includes \$30,000 for tree planting.

Central Park reforestation (Parks and Recreation)

A reforestation program in Central Park will improve the health of the forest through tree planting and understorey planting. The 1994 budget includes \$50,000 for reforestation in the park.

Environmental guidelines for Park Design and Construction (Parks and Recreation)

Staff are working towards the development of environmental guidelines for all park design and construction activities. The guidelines will consider potential environmental affects of design and construction and outline means of minimizing or eliminating these affects. The guidelines will also incorporate design and construction procedures that are consistent with integrated pest management (IPM).

Burnaby tree protection bylaw (Planning and Building)

The drafting of a tree protection bylaw regulating the removal and replacement of trees from private property is underway. It is anticipated that public review of the bylaw will occur before the Summer of 1994.

Environmentally sensitive areas program (Planning and Building)

A program for further protecting environmentally sensitive areas in Burnaby will be developed in 1994. As part of the SOER process, the Environment and Waste Management Committee commissioned a study to provide background material for an environmentally sensitive areas program in Burnaby. This study will provide the basis for the program.

Management plan for Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park (Parks and Recreation,  
Planning, Engineering, Environmental Health)

A management plan for Burnaby Lake Regional Nature Park will be completed in 1994. Baseline environmental information has been compiled over the past few years by City staff, the GVRD and BCIT students. This information will guide the preparation of the new management plan.

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Burnaby Lake System Project (Engineering, Environmental Health, Parks and Recreation,  
Planning and Building)

Subject to Council approval, the City of Burnaby will become a partner in BCIT's Burnaby Lake System Project. The BCIT project focuses on environmental protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat in the Central Valley watershed. Stewardship, community involvement and partnership between various levels of government, citizens' organizations and community institutions are cornerstones of the project.

Provision of City lands for salmon holding facility by Brunette River (Planning and Building)

In 1994 the City will complete a rezoning, subdivision and agreement to lease with the Sapperton Fish and Game Club to allow installation of an adult salmon holding facility on City lands in the Cariboo area.

Environmental protection/enhancement on North Arm of the Fraser River (Planning and Building, Engineering)

A study on environmental protection and enhancement in the Big Bend area has been initiated. The City is working with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to prepare a plan for the restoration of fish habitat within the Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Terminus Park.

**Recommendation 5: Action Program and Budget**

*"THAT considering the Workshop Ideas for Actions outlined in the SOER, the Environment and Waste Management Committee in collaboration with all City departments prepare on a priority basis a detailed environmental action program incorporating specific actions, targets, responsibilities and budget requirements for the short, medium and long term." - SOER, p. 63.*

This report outlines key initiatives and programs in the 1994 operating budget that address SOER goals and recommendations. The provisional budget for 1995 will address ongoing and future initiatives related to the SOER and their budget requirements.

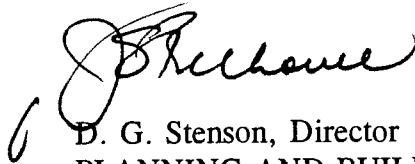
*Planning and Building*

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**3.0 SUMMARY**

A wide variety of initiatives that address the SOER recommendations are being undertaken by City departments through their 1994 operating budgets. Provisional budgets for 1995 and future years will allocate funds for other initiatives. Staff will conduct an annual review of progress in addressing the SOER recommendations and goals and provide an annual progress report to the Environment and Waste Management Committee and Council.



D. G. Stenson, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

SG\db

- cc. City Manager  
Director Administrative & Community Services  
Director Engineering  
Director Finance  
Director Recreation & Cultural Services  
Medical Health Officer