CITY OF BURNABY

ENVIRONMENT AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

RE: GREEN STREETS CANADA GRANT APPLICATION

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>

1. THAT Council approve the GREEN STREETS program grant application with accompanying RESOLUTION.

REPORT

The Environment and Waste Management Committee, at its meeting held on 1995 September 12, received and adopted the <u>attached</u> report providing details of a proposed city wide program and application for federal funding assistance for the GREEN STREETS plan. GREEN STREETS is a cornerstone component of the federal GREEN PLAN and is dedicated to encouraging the planting of trees in communities across Canada by creating partnerships between federal and municipal governments and communities.

The GREEN STREETS program was identified as an Environmental Stewardship initiative in the report entitled State of the Environment Report - Status of 1994 Initiatives adopted by Council on 1994 November 14.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D.P. Drummond Chair

Councillor D. Johnston Member

Councillor D.A. Lawson Member

[:] COPY - CITY MANAGER

⁻ DIR. PLNG. & BLDG.

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Date: 1995 08 29

TO:

Chairperson and Members

Environment and Waste Management Committee

FROM:

Director Recreation & Cultural Services

SUBJECT:

GREEN STREETS CANADA GRANT APPLICATION

PURPOSE:

To provide the Committee with details of and request approval of the grant

application.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council be requested to approve the GREEN STREETS program grant application with accompanying RESOULTION.

REPORT

BACKGROUND

In response to a directive from the Environment and Waste Management Committee

"THAT staff prepare a report for presentation to the Environment and Waste Management committee outlining a coordinated tree planting program for initiation by the City as outlined in the State of the Environment Report."

this report provides details of the proposed city wide program and the application for federal funding assistance for the GREEN STREETS plan. GREEN STREETS is a cornerstone component of the federal GREEN PLAN and is dedicated to encouraging the planting of trees in communities across Canada by creating partnerships between federal and municipal governments and communities.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The objective of this coordinated tree planting program between GREEN STREETS Canada and the City of Burnaby is to enhance the urban forest through the development of community support for and participation in urban forest stewardship. This program is a significant contribution toward the ultimate development of a comprehensive urban forest plan for the City of Burnaby.

This objective concurs with Recommendation 4 of the State of the Environment Report which states:

"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."

DISCUSSION

The tree planting plan is a \$300,000 two year program that will plant almost 5,000 trees of all sizes during 1996 and 1997 throughout Burnaby's parks and street boulevards. The program is made possible through funding derived from current municipal tree planting programs, corporate donations and community participation.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The program will concentrate on tree deficient sites throughout Burnaby to effect the greatest community benefit. A major environmental initiative will provide program focus while smaller components occur across Burnaby to gather recognition, support and participation from the entire community.

A summary of the proposed program is shown on the <u>attached</u> table.

Fraser Foreshore Park is the main initiative in this program accounting for nearly one half the tree planting opportunities. This site is the location of an estuary restoration and salmon enhancement project initiated in 1994 as a partnership venture between the City of Burnaby and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Restoration work will include the planting of several sizes of native deciduous and coniferous trees to restore native habitat and offer users exciting opportunities for outdoor education, nature viewing and interpretation. This important tree planting opportunity is dependent of federal GREEN STREETS funding and corporate sponsorship.

Tree planting opportunities in Central Park are an important component of this program. There currently exists a 5-year capitally funded forest enhancement program for Central Park. The GREEN STREETS program includes Central Park to bolster the existing program and to demonstrate proactive forest stewardship to the GREEN STREETS application review committee. The overwhelming popularity of Central Park as a destination has created damaging pressures on the forest resource. The current forest enhancement program is based on the recommendations of the Resource Management Plan prepared by Gardner, Peepre and Associates. It strives to ensure the continued diversity and health of the natural plant community. Funds supplied by the GREEN STREETS program will enable the planting of over 1,900 additional trees.

Several neighbourhood parks including Robert Burnaby, Barnet Marine and Confederation Parks are selected to receive tree planting within the GREEN STREETS program. These parks and various smaller green spaces will provide ecologically and aesthetically beneficial tree planting opportunities to a broad cross section of the community. Funds received through the GREEN STREETS grant will add to the existing annual park tree planting program.

Boulevard tree planting locations will be selected throughout Burnaby to address a backlog of improved city streets deficient in tree planting. The GREEN STREETS grant will add to the existing annual boulevard tree planting program to aesthetically enhance neighbourhood streets and provide a healthier environment including the provision of shade, noise and visual buffering and clean air.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A primary motivation of Burnaby's GREEN STREETS application is to foster awareness of the importance of trees to the well being of citizens. The inclusion of the community in the preparation and implementation of the program is a key to its ultimate success. The GREEN STREETS program was a major display feature during Environment Week and solicited useful information toward the preparation of the GREEN STREETS program. Generous corporate sponsorship has supported the application and will result in the planting of an additional 400 trees. Many of these trees will be planted with the assistance of private and corporate citizens. As with the successful Tree Plan Canada PARTNERS program school children will be involved in many of the planting activities with civic staff.

A wide range of promotional opportunities including radio, television, newspaper and school visits will be utilised to raise community awareness of the GREEN STREETS program and to solicit continued community participation.

GREEN STREETS PROGRAM FUNDING

The City of Burnaby has prepared a two year, \$300,000 tree planting program. The \$180,000 anticipated to be available from existing municipal tree planting budgets over the next two fiscal years is combined with \$20,000 sought from corporate sponsorship and a \$100,000 grant from Green Streets Canada as sought in the GREEN STREETS application.

RESOLUTION

Written endorsement and commitment to the proposal by Council and by the Mayor is required and is to be accompanied by the following RESOLUTION:

"WHEREAS the National Community Tree Foundation has recently announced the Green Streets Canada program to provide financial assistance to municipalities for tree planting programs in urban areas:

AND WHEREAS Green Streets Canada requires municipal Council to commit to a tree planting program that will enhance the Corporations existing tree planting program, foster community involvement and enhance public awareness of the benefits of trees; AND WHEREAS the Parks, Planning and Building and Engineering Departments have detailed an enhanced planting program that, with funding assistance from Green Streets Canada, will see tree planting in the City of Burnaby increase by approximately 1,500 trees:

AND WHEREAS the application for Green Streets Canada requires written consent from the Mayor and Council endorsement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council affirms the City of Burnaby's commitment to Green Streets Canada, thereby confirming that municipal funding will be available if our application to Green Streets Canada is successful, as outlined in our application."

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Council is requested to approve the GREEN STREETS coordinated tree planting program application with accompanying Resolution.

Dennis Gaunt

Director Recreation & Cultural Services

cc: Director Finance
Director Engineering

Director Planning

Director Human Resources

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