

TO: CITY MANAGER

2000 January 28

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

SUBJECT: GVRD REGIONAL GREENWAY SECTOR PLAN PROCESS

PURPOSE: To provide an update regarding the planning process for the GVRD Regional Greenway Sector Plan and upcoming public Open House.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, the Bicycle Advisory Committee, and the Environment and Waste Management Committee for their information.

R E P O R T

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In 1999 January, the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) commenced the planning phase for the Burrard Peninsula-Richmond Sector Recreational Greenway Plan, which includes the municipalities of Burnaby, New Westminister, Richmond and Vancouver. Regional Greenway Sector Plans are based upon the adopted GVRD Greenway Vison, which proposes a network of regionally significant ecological and recreational greenways to link Green Zone and significant open space areas within the GVRD. Greenways are determined to be regionally significant if they cross municipal boundaries and connect to significant parks and open space. Recreational greenways are intended to be used for non-motorised activities such as walking, jogging, and recreational cycling.

To date, the Regional Greenway Sector planning process has been completed for the North East Sector (Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Coquitlam), and plans are well developed for the North Shore Sector (West Vancouver, North Vancouver, Lions Bay).

2.0 BURNABY COMPONENT - REGIONAL GREENWAY SECTOR PLAN

Staff from both the City's Parks and Planning Departments have been involved in initial discussions with the GVRD to best determine conceptual alignments for regionally significant greenways in Burnaby. To this end, the GVRD has produced a preliminary draft map and companion document

which catalogues all regionally significant greenways within Burnaby's sector. Each alignment represents desire lines rather than exact alignments, and it is recognized that further study related to the opportunities, constraints, and environmental issues would be required in order to better refine the greenway plan.

Currently, the Regional Greenway Sector Plan identifies seven different greenway alignments in Burnaby (see attached Figure 1). Of these, one is entirely built, four are either partially built, under construction, or being actively pursued, one is identified within the adopted Burnaby Transportation Plan and one has only recently been identified as a potential greenway. All seven are consistent with the GVRD's Livable Region Strategy, the GVRD's Greenways Vision which was also adopted by Council, the City's Official Community Plan and relevant Town Centre Plans and the Burnaby Transportation Plan.

One greenway within the Regional Sector Greenway Plan, the Brunette - Fraser River Regional Pilot Greenway (BFRG), has been identified as a pilot project showcasing partnership opportunities between different governing agencies. Council authorised staff to work further with the GVRD on this project on 1999 November 22. The GVRD is currently pursuing implementation of this project in New Westminister and in sections of leased rights-of-way in Burnaby. Staff will be providing a status report of Burnaby efforts in the coming months.

3.0 OPEN HOUSE

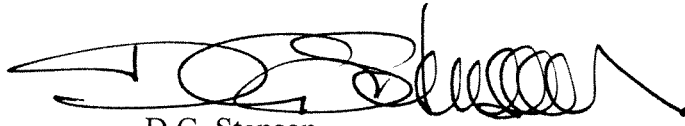
The GVRD has scheduled three public open houses in the Burrard Peninsula-Richmond Sector. The purpose of the public open houses is to make the public aware of this project and related planning process, and receive public input on the preliminary alignments. Graphic information for the Burrard - Richmond Sector will be displayed and representatives from contributing agencies including BC Hydro, BC Gas, TransLink, GVRD Regional Parks, FREMP, Vancouver Port Authority, Fraser River Port Authority, North Fraser Port Authority, University Endowment Lands, Vancouver International Airport, and the Cities of Burnaby, Richmond, Vancouver, and New Westminister will be in attendance. The seven conceptual alignments in Burnaby will be on display for comment. Information on the BFRG and select information from other Sector Greenway Plans will also be displayed. One open house is scheduled to be held in Burnaby at the Bill Copeland Sports Centre on Tuesday, 2000 February 22, between 5:00 pm and 9:00 pm. A formal presentation will be made at 7:00 pm.

4.0 CONCLUSIONS

The Regional Sector Greenway Plans are generally consistent with Burnaby's Council-adopted plans. Staff have been involved with the GVRD in determining potential regionally significant greenways within Burnaby. A GVRD sponsored public open house in Burnaby is scheduled for 2000 February 22 will be staffed from representatives of all participatory agencies in the Sector and allow for public comment.

Following the three public open houses, GVRD and City staff will further assess each of the proposed alignments. Further reports regarding the Regional Greenway Sector planning process will be provided to Council as warranted. Advancement of the Greenway Sector planning process does not commit the City to implementation schedules or costs outside of the normal capital budgeting process. The GVRD recognizes that the greenway initiatives will likely be developed on a phased basis.

This is for the information of Council.



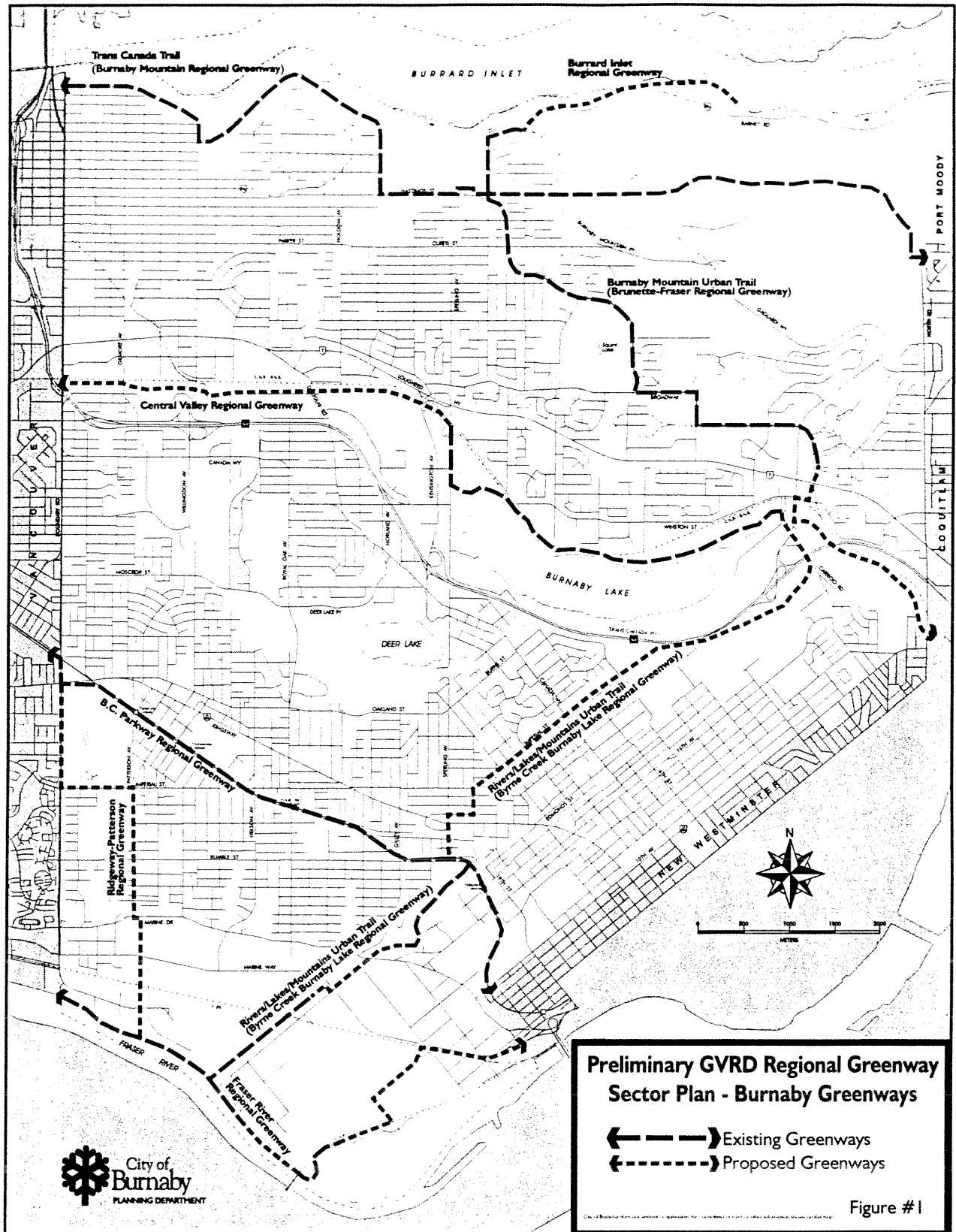
D.G. Stenson
Director Planning and Building

MP:lf

Attachment

cc: Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Director Engineering

a:\PL Regional Sector Greenway Open House.wpd



Note: Preliminary greenway names are for communication and information purposes only. Official names will be subject to GVRD, Municipal and Utility review.