

2003 SEPTEMBER 18

TO: CITY MANAGER

FROM: DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: SUMMIT YOUTH CENTRE RELOCATION

PURPOSE: To request Council to bring forward a bylaw to appropriate \$135,050 from Capital Reserves to finance the Summit Youth Centre relocation.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a bylaw be brought forward to appropriate \$135,050 (inclusive of 7% GST) from Capital Reserves to finance the Summit Youth Centre relocation.

REPORT

At its meeting of 2003 September 17, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission received the above noted report and adopted the two recommendations contained therein.

Appearing elsewhere on this agenda is a bylaw for this project.



Kate Friars
DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION
AND CULTURAL SERVICES

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Attachment

P:\DATA\COUNCIL\PK- SUMMIT YOUTH CENTRE RELOCATION

cc. Director Finance
City Solicitor

SUBJECT: SUMMIT YOUTH CENTRE RELOCATION

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT the expenditure of \$ 130,000 for the relocation of Summit Youth Centre as outlined in this report be approved.
2. THAT Council be requested to bring down a bylaw to appropriate \$ 135,050 (inclusive of 7% GST) from Capital Reserves to finance this project.

REPORT

Background

At its meeting of 2002 December 11th, the Commission received a report (Attachment #1) that outlined the need to relocate the Summit Youth Centre to a more appropriate location. The report sited ongoing concerns for the safety of the youth and staff at the centre as the reason why the current site is was no longer a suitable location. Commission concurred that relocating Summit Youth Centre to a more appropriate site would better allow the centre to meet the needs of youth in the area.

Current

Staff undertook an extensive review process in order to select the most appropriate new site for the Summit Youth Centre. The following details the process:

- Established a set of criteria that ranked the factors determined by the Youth Services staff group as important to the success of a centre. The criteria developed is not specific to the northwest region and can be used to determine the most desirable location for any youth centre.
- All sites in the northwest quadrant of the city that could be considered suitable were then evaluated according to the criteria.
- Staff consulted with youth who frequent the Summit Youth Centre to get their input.
- The North West Burnaby Youth Advisory Committee was revitalized and has provided valuable feedback to the site selection process. This Committee has representatives from most agencies in the northwest quadrant that work with youth. In addition, staff have received direct feedback from the RCMP liaison officers at Alpha, Burnaby Mountain, and Burnaby North schools, staff at Gilmore, Alpha, Burnaby Mountain and Burnaby North schools, the Odyssey staff team, the Boys and Girls Club, Lochdale Hall Community Association, the Kensington Merchants Association, and city staff at McGill Library, Eileen Dailly Pool, Confederation Seniors Centre and Willingdon Community Centre.

New Site

It has been very challenging to find a new site for the Summit Youth Centre. Seventeen different potential sites were reviewed in the northwest quadrant of Burnaby. While a few sites would have met the criteria of an appropriate physical location, only the sites in Confederation Park met the need of the core group of users who live in the immediate vicinity of Confederation Park.

Therefore, three sites (Attachment #2) within the general precinct of Confederation Park have been evaluated. The three site options were taken to a meeting of the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CEPTED) group.

A final decision on the exact location has not been made at this time as staff are waiting to receive geo-technical information on site "B". While all sites indicated are reasonable, site "B" is the preferred site for the following reasons:

- It is easily accessible but is not in the high traffic area of the pool, library, resource centre and seniors centre.
- It will not impact other users by reducing availability of parking.
- The park setting provides an appropriate surrounding for the facility.
- The CEPTED Committee unanimously endorsed this site.

Staff will finalize the exact location by the end of 2003 September. In the meantime, the Commission is requested to approve the funding in order for the multi-faceted relocation process to commence immediately.

Timeline

The goal of this project is to have the Summit Youth Centre moved, setup, and open by the end of 2003. Once funding is in place, site development and planning work will begin. Upon receiving preliminary planning approval and a building permit, work will begin to prepare the site for the centre. The building will then be transported from its current site and set up in its new location at which time the utility connections will be finalized. The final step will be to restore the previous site of the Summit Youth Centre back to informal park use. This timeline may be impacted by delays due to weather conditions and GVRD permits process in which case the site preparation will be completed in 2003 and the actual moving of the centre will take place early in 2004.

There may be a two to four week period that the centre will not be available for use while the youth centre is moved to its new site and services connected. Staff will minimize the disruption during this period by offering a range of off-site activities.

Budget

The total cost to relocate Summit Youth Centre is projected to be \$ 130,000. There is \$ 110,000 currently identified and \$ 20,000 will be re-priorized in the 2003 Annual Capital Program for this project. The Capital spending limit will not be exceeded.

There will be no impact to the current operating budget of Summit Youth Centre as the same level of staffing and services will be provided at the new location.

Conclusion

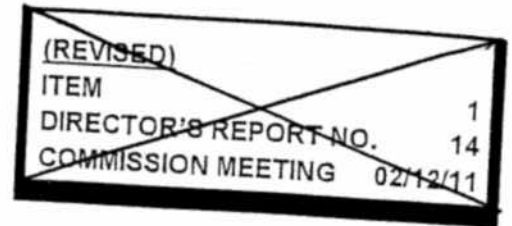
It is recommended that Council be requested to bring down a bylaw to appropriate \$ 135,050 (inclusive of 7% GST) from Capital Reserves.

JM:mc

Attachments (2)

p:/wp/jm/commission/summityouthctrreallocation.wpd

cc. Director Finance
City Solicitor



SUBJECT: SUMMIT YOUTH CENTRE UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be sent to the Parent Advisory Council, Confederation Park Elementary School, Ms. A. Rossi.

REPORT

Appearing under correspondence on this agenda is a letter from Ms. Annalisa Rossi, Safety Committee Representative for the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) at Confederation Park Elementary School. In the correspondence they are requesting that the Summit Youth Centre be moved from its current location due to recent acts of violence in Confederation Park.

Since last spring there have been a number of troubling incidents involving youth that have occurred in Confederation Park. While the RCMP have indicated that Confederation Park has not had a higher than average number of incidents compared to other areas, a significant number of the incidents are youth related. The incidents occurred in the south area of Confederation Park in the general area of the McGill Library parking lot, the lawn area of Summit Youth Centre, and the lacrosse box.

These incidents were not directly related to the indoor programmed activities of the youth centre and most of the events did not involve youth who use the youth centre. However, the most recent incident on 2002 October 18th involved a youth who was not a member but occasionally used the facilities available at the centre.

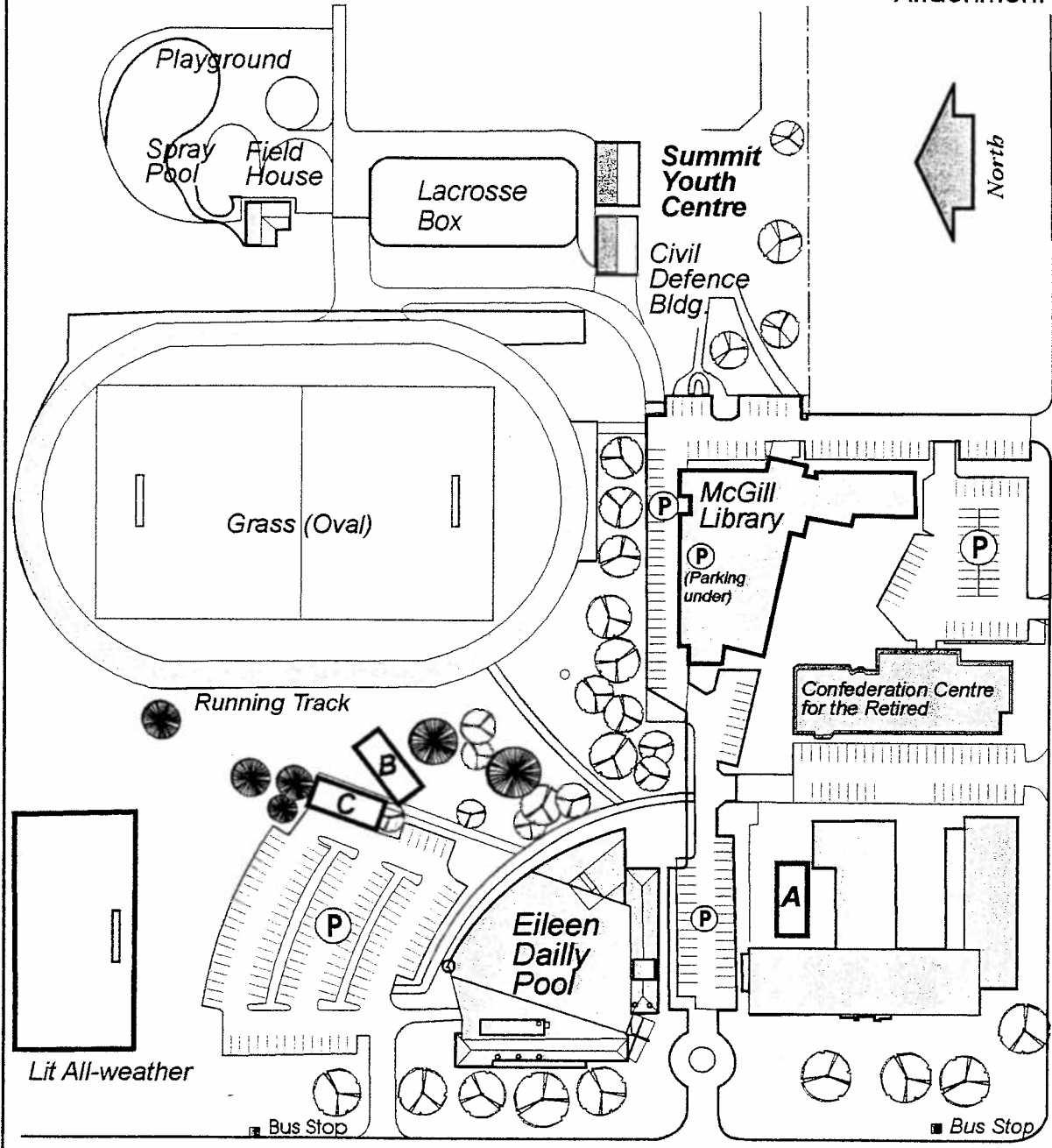
These events have had a serious impact on how parents and youth view the safety of the Centre as it is located in a fairly secluded portion of the park adjacent to the lacrosse box and the Civil Defense Building. To access the Centre, youth must walk through the park and along an unlit path. Parents dropping their youth off cannot see the Centre from the parking lot. As a result, the attendance at the Centre has begun to decline and this will likely continue until the issues have been addressed. Staff are currently reviewing alternate locations for the Youth Centre that will provide a greater degree of safety for the youth and staff. Staff are reviewing potential sites that are more visible and in high traffic areas. However, relocation of Summit Youth Centre will not deter violent incidents in Confederation Park. To address this issue, design staff trained in the area of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CEPTED) will conduct a safety audit of this portion of the park and library parking lot. The review will determine physical changes that can be made to deter these types of incidents.

It is unfortunate that unrelated incidents in Confederation Park have impacted the perception of Summit Youth Centre. Once an appropriate site has been determined and the relocation is complete, the Summit Youth Centre will be better able to concentrate on meeting the needs of the youth in the northwest area of Burnaby.

The contents of this report has been shared with Ms. A. Rossi.

WS:mc

p:/.../wp/ws/commission/summit youthctrupdate.wpd



**Confederation Park:
Potential Relocation Sites
For Summit Youth Centre**

Dwg.# O.P. 6-1- 153

Date: Sept. 2003

Scale: nts

Prepared By: HD