
FINANCE AND CIVIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CIVIC MEMORIAL TO DR. SUN YAT-SEN

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council authorize advancement of the detailed design and coordination for the proposed Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial in Central Park, as outlined in this report.
2. THAT Council authorize an interim expenditure of Gaming Funds in the amount of \$40,000 to advance the detailed design of the Sun Yat-Sen Memorial installation.
3. THAT a copy of this report be advanced to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for their information.
4. THAT a copy of this report be advanced to the International Relations & Friendship Cities Committee for their information.
5. THAT a copy of this report be sent to the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Foundation for Peace and Education, c/o Mr. Kevin Shaoyi Xin, 204-8582 Cartier Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6P 4T8.

REPORT

The Finance and Civic Development Committee, at its meeting held on 2014 June 26, received and adopted the *attached* report advancing a proposal by the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Foundation for Peace and Education to create a civic memorial to Dr. Sun Yat-Sen in Central Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston
Chair

Councillor C. Jordan
Vice Chair

Councillor P. McDonell
Member

Copied to:	City Manager Deputy City Managers Director Planning & Building Director Engineering Director Finance Director Parks, Recr. & Cult. Services Fire Chief Chief Librarian
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TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
FINANCE AND CIVIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

DATE: 2014 June 18

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

FILE: 1650-20
Reference: Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CIVIC MEMORIAL TO DR. SUN YAT-SEN

PURPOSE: To advance a proposal by the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Foundation for Peace and Education to create a civic memorial to Dr. Sun Yat-Sen in Central Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** the Committee request Council authorize advancement of the detailed design and coordination for the proposed Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Memorial in Central Park, as outlined in this report.
2. **THAT** the Committee request Council authorize an interim expenditure of Gaming Funds in the amount of \$40,000 to advance the detailed design of the Sun Yat-Sen Memorial installation.
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4. **THAT** a copy of this report be advanced to the International Relations & Friendship Cities Committee for their information.
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REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

At its closed meeting of 2012 November 19, Council approved a report from the Executive Committee of Council recommending staff work with the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Foundation for Peace and Education (SYSPFE) to further refine a proposal to create a civic memorial to Dr. Sun Yat-Sen, whose home City in China is Burnaby's Sister City, Zhongshan.

The Foundation has outlined a proposal to create a memorial in the City of Burnaby in the form of a bronze statue of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen mounted on a granite base. Created by renowned Chinese sculptor Coa Chong En, the donated Dr. Sun Yat-Sen statue was cast to commemorate the

centennial of the 1911 Xinhai Revolution in China. As part of this proposed gift of the bronze statue, the Foundation outlined a proposal for a partnership with the City of Burnaby to create a civic memorial to Dr. Sun Yat-Sen.

This report outlines the project’s background and general scope with a recommended approach for staff to further advance the project for the consideration of Council in order to approve the next phase of design and implementation.

2.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

2.1 Dr. Sun Yat-Sen and Burnaby Connections

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen (1866 – 1925) is widely regarded as a central figure of the historic democratic revolution in China, as he was a leader of the 1911 Xinhai Revolution, which overthrew the Manchu rule of China. When the Republic of China was established on 1912 January 01, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen was elected to be the first provisional president. Leading up to the Revolution, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen made three visits to British Columbia and Canada in 1897, 1910 and 1911, seeking political and financial support. During his visits, he consulted with Chinese-Canadians and raised funds and awareness for the revolution through daily lectures at forums held in cities across the country. On his visits, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen travelled through Burnaby to visit with the large Chinese-Canadian communities of both Vancouver and New Westminster.

Today, Burnaby shares a cultural connection with Dr. Sun Yat-Sen through its Sister City relationship with his birthplace of Zhongshan City, China. In 2009, a delegation from Burnaby visited Zhongshan City, China in response to a letter received by the Mayor of Zhongshan City, expressing the desire to build friendship and cooperation between the two cities. On 2011 September 19, the City signed a Sister City agreement with Zhongshan City. This agreement aims to build upon the established relationship of these visits, further promoting economic, scientific, cultural and tourism exchanges and cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. The creation of a civic memorial to Dr. Sun-Yat Sen in Burnaby would represent an opportunity for the City to further build and create cultural connections with its Sister City of Zhongshan and recognize the importance of this historic figure to our Chinese-Canadian pioneers and citizens.

2.2 Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Foundation for Peace and Education

The Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Foundation for Peace and Education is international in its mandate and was created to celebrate and promote Dr. Sun Yat-Sen’s achievements in advancing the creation of modern China. The Foundation aims to: “...promote multiculturalism, the development of traditional Chinese culture, and the harmonious development of society as a whole.” The Foundation has pursued an ambitious plan to celebrate the centennial of the 1911 Chinese Revolution by undertaking to create 100 bronze statue memorials to be erected in locations throughout the world that have both historic and symbolic connections to Dr. Sun Yat-Sen and his travels leading up to the Xinhai Revolution.

The Foundation has advanced their proposed memorial project in Canada with a view that the monument will enhance the historical and cultural connection of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen and their pioneer Chinese-Canadians, whose financial support contributed to Dr. Sun Yat-Sen's success in advancing the Chinese Revolution. The Foundation has been seeking to create a memorial in partnership with the City of Burnaby given the City's central location within Metro Vancouver and its Sister City relationship with the City of Zhongshan.

3.0 PROPOSED CIVIC MEMORIAL

The Foundation has advanced a proposal to the Executive Committee of Council to partner with the City to create a civic memorial in the form of a bronze statue of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen. As part of the project partnership, the Foundation has requested that the City, in return for accepting this gift, would coordinate all project management, including: finding an appropriate location for the memorial; site preparation and required landscaping; and working cooperatively to undertake an appropriate dedication ceremony.

Based on Council's previous approval and direction, staff have worked with the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Foundation in order to pursue further details regarding the proposed civic memorial. This work has included the further advancement of the project related to the: proposed location; proposed memorial design elements; and civic responsibilities and financing.

3.1 Potential Locations

The following criteria were used to assess potential sites: ease of maintenance; accessibility; crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED); respect for the broader Chinese community; and the uses and character of the immediate area.

Locations around City Hall, Metrotown and Central Park were assessed by Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department and Planning and Building Department staff, and two potential locations were identified for the Committee's consideration: Civic Square at the northeast corner of the site, just off McKay Avenue and Kingsbough Street, and Central Park on the west side of Patterson Avenue. Graphics to illustrate the proposed locations of the statue are provided in *Attachments A and B*.

Civic Square Location:

At the mid-point of the serpentine path connecting the corner of McKay Avenue and Kingsbough Street to the Civic Square Colonnade, the proposed location is a grassed area framed by hedges and surrounded by trees, as seen in *Attachment A*. Depending upon the extent of the works, the location would require removal of some trees and vegetation. There are no identified conflicts with existing utilities. The civic square has been previously identified as a potential location of a possible civic use, but there are no current plans to proceed with any new use at this time. The configuration of the proposed site, well used serpentine path and grove of oriental maple trees in close proximity to the adjacent Crystal Mall and Hilton Hotel lends itself to the siting of the memorial in this location to recognize Burnaby's sister city relationship with Zhongshan.

Central Park Location:

The proposed location in Central Park is on the east side of the park, south of the BC Parkway and Patterson Station on the west side of Patterson Avenue at the main entrance for pedestrians and cyclists entering the park from Metrotown, as shown on **Attachment B**. The location is in an existing clearing with good sight lines to Patterson Avenue, the BC Parkway and the Expo Line Patterson SkyTrain Station. The location would need to carefully consider existing underground utilities in the area. Design work is underway to design and build the Patterson Urban Trail from the BC Parkway to Imperial Street, including a feature area at this location. If this location is chosen, the feature area could be expanded, with Council and Commission approval, to include a plaza and small Chinese garden style horticultural feature around the statue recognizing Burnaby’s sister city relationship with Zhongshan that would serve as a new entrance into Central Park on the east side of the park.

Summary Evaluation:

Each of the locations is fully accessible and provides ease of access for maintenance. With its proximity to the hotel, library, parking and other facilities in Metrotown, the Civic Square site lends itself to community and civic functions. As the eastern gateway to Central Park, the point of arrival at the Patterson SkyTrain Station and the termination of the axis on Beresford Street, the Central Park location is highly visible and visited. Sightlines at each location provide surveillance from passersby. The Central Park location receives surveillance from pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, and surrounding buildings. The Civic Square location is overlooked by surrounding buildings and is patrolled by a security detail.

The proposed positions at each location were selected as respectful orientations that would add to the experience for local users and meet the needs of the Foundation for commemorative gatherings and individual appreciation and reflection. The Civic Square site provides a contained landscaped area for the memorial. The Central Park site provides a terminus for the Beresford Art Walk. Both sites provide an opportunity to take advantage of the donation to celebrate Burnaby’s sister city relationship with Zhongshan, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen’s birth place. Both locations could also accommodate future additions of enhanced Chinese gardens to augment the proposed memorial.

On balance, the Central Park site location provides more opportunity for visitation, celebration and a connection to the Beresford Art Walk with fewer disturbances to existing vegetation. As such, based on the considerations noted above, staff are proposing the Central Park location for this installation. It is noted that the group has also expressed a preference for a Central Park location.

3.2 Proposed Memorial Design

The proposed civic memorial design has been refined by the Foundation and presented to the City for further discussion and review. The main elements are composed of pre-manufactured components which have now been fabricated and are in storage awaiting the project’s final approval (see **Attachments A and B**).

The main feature of the memorial would include a bronze statue of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen, 230 cm (7.5 feet) in height, on a granite faced stepped concrete base, 170 cm (5.5 feet) in height. In total the memorial would stand 400 cm (13 feet) tall. The granite base would include carved granite tablets with an inscription outlining the contributions of Dr. Sun Yat-Sen. The area surrounding the statue has been proposed to be a small paved plaza area surrounded by four park benches contributed by other local Chinese-Canadian associations. The future design of the memorial could consist of a larger 'Chinese' garden area, as determined by the city. The final design concept for these elements have not been finalized at this time.

A further dedication plaque commemorating the memorial's dedication and the partnership of the Foundation and the City of Burnaby would be included as part of the project's final design.

3.3 Civic Responsibilities and Interim Financing

The Foundation has advanced a proposal which outlines that it intends to cover all costs associated with construction of the memorial through donations and its own funding. Maintenance and operating costs would form part of the City's responsibilities going forward. The project's design will be further reviewed and refined to ensure that its final installation meets with the City's standards. This may include a need to repair or upgrade additional civic infrastructure that would need improvement to accommodate this new civic feature.

The project will require City Planning, Engineering and Park's staff time to complete and coordinate the project's design, construction and implementation, as well as contracted resources. As part of this work, staff will also coordinate the appropriate dedication and/or interpretive plaque for the memorial to recognize the project partnership and the City's established Sister City relationship with Zhongshan, China.

As such, it is proposed that the project be developed in detail by staff. Staff would develop the design and cost estimate for the information of the Foundation, and would seek their concurrence that the overall program would be funded through their current commitment. If the Foundation is unable to provide for the full costs associated with the Memorial, a request for the use of gaming funds may be forwarded for the consideration and approval of Council.

On this basis, this report seeks authorization for an interim expenditure of Gaming Funds in the amount of \$40,000 to complete the detail design and estimate for the Central Park installation. Based on the current commitment of the Foundation, these expenditures for the design would form part of their overall funding contribution.

4.0 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & FRIENDSHIP CITIES COMMITTEE

Council has established the International Relations & Friendship Cities Committee which acts as an advisory body for international relations and the Sister/Friendship City program. As this project proceeds to completion, it is proposed that staff would ensure that a formal dedication ceremony would be coordinated through this Committee to ensure that the opportunity to appropriately recognize the City's Sister City Zhongshan and the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Foundation

To: Finance and Civic Development Committee
From: Director Planning and Building
Re: Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Civic Memorial
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would be accomplished with the necessary protocols. A copy of this report will be sent to the Committee for its information at this time.

5.0 NEXT STEPS

This report seeks Committee and Council approval to advance the proposed Civic Memorial to Dr. Sun Yat-Sen. On completion of the design details, the project would be advanced to the Finance and Civic Development Committee, and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission as appropriate, for final review of the Central Park design. Details of the dedication ceremony and any items of protocol that arise from this project will be forwarded to Council through the International Relations & Friendship Cities Committee, as they become available.

As outlined, the proposed Civic Memorial to Dr Sun Yat-Sen would provide further opportunities for the City of Burnaby to recognize the important history of Chinese-Canadians and establish an additional opportunity to recognize our Sister City, Zhongshan in the People's Republic of China.



Lou Pelletier, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

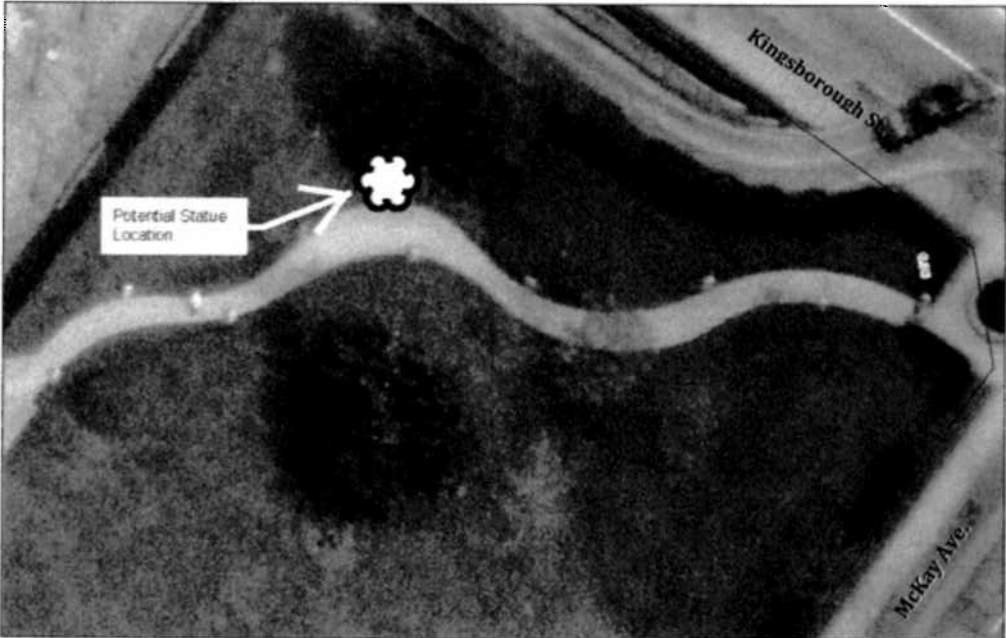
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Attachments

cc: City Manager
Deputy City Managers
Director Engineering
Director Finance
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Fire Chief
Chief Librarian
City Clerk

Attachment A



Illustration of potential statue orientation in northeast corner of Civic Square



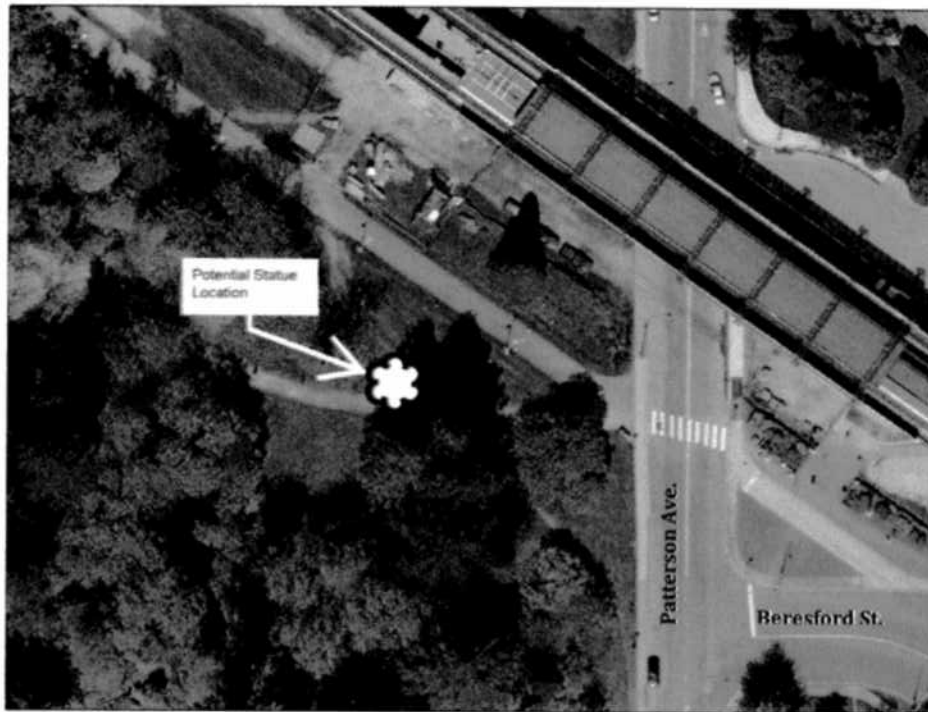
Location 1 Civic Square (Kingsborough & Mackay)



Attachment B



Illustration of potential statue orientation towards Patterson Avenue and Beresford Street.



Location 2 Central Park