

Date: September 1, 1999

SUBJECT: SPANISH BANKS CREEK - CULVERT ACCESS IMPROVEMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the Board approve daylighting of a section of Spanish Banks Creek north of N.W. Marine Drive by the Vancouver Salmon and Stream Society with details to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

2.

BACKGROUND

Presently Spanish Banks Creek drains an upper watershed area within the University Endowment Lands and Pacific Spirit Park. It then enters an existing wood culvert directly south of N.W. Marine Drive. A corrugated steel pipe crosses N.W. Marine Drive and proceeds underneath the existing parking lot and foreshore of Spanish Banks park.

The Vancouver Salmon and Stream Society, in association with the West Point Grey Residents Association, would like to daylight the creek in this proximity to provide access into the creek by fish species such as Coho and Chum salmon from the ocean.

DISCUSSION

The attached plan and project description highlight the goals of the project as well as community input and scope of work. The Vancouver Salmon and Stream Society has, through a number of consultants, investigated archeological aspects of the project. No archeological sites are recorded in the vicinity of the proposed project. Potential erosion assessments/beach impacts have been documented and addressed as well, and the project has been reviewed with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

The intent of the project is to daylight the creek, removing the culvert between N.W. Marine Drive and the ocean (approximately 52 metres); the daylighted creek would extend across the beach surface and the parking lot. There will be a total loss of 10 parking stalls. The Salmon and Stream Society feels that the extended benefits of daylighting the creek outweigh the loss of parking in a park which already provides abundant parking. The stream will be culverted under the pedestrian/cycle path.

The creek will be lined with geotextile and cobble as per the attached plan. The work is expected to begin in the latter part of September 1999. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$62,000:

Financial sources and commitments to date:

\$37,000 DFO (Habitat Restoration committed

Branch)		
5,000	Provincial Ministry of Environment	committed
	(Urban Stream Restoration Program)	
20,000	Private Sponsor Leverage - The Sponsorship Company, Vancouver	final stages of agreement
\$62,000		

Capital funding is available to cover the \$20,000 of hoped-for private sponsorship, if necessary.

SUMMARY

Staff support this project for its many environmental contributions as well as the community and educational benefits this project offers. Board approval will allow construction to commence in the month of September.

Prepared by:
 Planning and Operations
 Board of Parks and Recreation
 City of Vancouver
 KDJ/ab

FOR A COPY OF THE ATTACHMENT CALL 257-8478
