



Date: April 30, 2001

TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Thornton Park Upgrade

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the Board approve the award of the consultancy contract to Jonathon Losee Ltd for \$36,100 (excluding disbursements and GST) for Thornton Park Upgrade design services.**
- B. THAT no legal right shall arise hereby and none shall arise until execution of the contemplated contract. The Board may rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution of the contemplated contract.**

POLICY

Consultancy contracts in excess of \$30,000 are awarded by the Board.

BACKGROUND

On June 14, 2000 Council (and the Park Board as information only) approved the expenditure of \$250,000 from the Bosa CityGate Development Park Payment-In-Lieu Fund to upgrade Thornton Park. The CityGate Development rezoning approval (September 1989) required that Bosa agree to a pay-in-lieu arrangement for parks and community facilities. The total amount received from Bosa Development was \$6,166,266. These funds have been used to acquire park land and make improvements to existing parks in the area neighbourhoods. The allocation of \$250,000 for Thornton Park will result in a balance of \$298,838 in the account.

DISCUSSION

The allocation of the funds for the upgrade of Thornton Park was agreed to by residents of the neighbourhood (CityGate Intertower Committees) in a townhall meeting in October 1999.

Thornton Park is a 3.80 acre ornamental park with large specimen trees located at Main Street and Terminal Avenue, immediately west of Pacific Central station (the former CNR train station). The park was originally developed in 1923 under the auspices of the Park Board. The

park's proximity to existing and proposed high density residential development, the train/bus station and Sky Train has resulted in increased pedestrian traffic in the park..

Early design ideas included a hard surface pedestrian area adjacent to Sky Train, improving pedestrian circulation, walkways and lighting, enhancing the planting and adding drainage and irrigation. A general 'facelift' to the park will acknowledge the architectural significance of the train station and will reference the park's and the area's history.

The \$250,00 upgrade of Thornton Park will include design consultation (\$36,100), staff time to implement a public process, construction, contingency and GST.

Six landscape architectural consultants were invited to submit proposals based on Terms of Reference prepared by staff. Selection of the successful consultant (Jonathan Losee Ltd) was based on the firm's experience with similar projects, their written understanding of the project objectives, principal's time involvement, assigned staff, sub-consultants and fees requested for the work. Six proposals were received and the fees ranged from \$32,800 to \$40,000.

SUMMARY

Jonathan Losee Ltd has assembled a qualified design team including landscape architects, historians and engineers who will work with community groups and Park Board staff from concept to completion of construction. With the hiring of the consultant, programing and conceptual design can begin in May and construction will begin in early 2002.

Prepared by:

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Cbl