Date: July 9, 2003



TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation

FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK RESERVOIR

LANDSCAPE: CONCEPT PLAN

RECOMMENDATION

A. THAT the Board approve the Queen Elizabeth Park Reservoir Landscape concept plan as illustrated in Attachment 1.

B. That the budget be set at \$3.4 million and the project be funded as described in this report.

POLICY

It is Park Board policy to obtain Board approval of the conceptual plan for major projects before proceeding to working drawings.

BACKGROUND

The Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) is in the process of rebuilding its Little Mountain Reservoir, with completion anticipated for December 2003. The GVRD and Vancouver Park Board (VPB) held two Open Houses in 2001 and one in 2002 to hear from the public regarding this development, which includes Park Board plans to rebuild the landscape over the reservoir. In January 2002, the preliminary landscape concept was approved by the Board, and favourably received by the public at an Open House in March 2002.

DISCUSSION

The 2003-2005 Capital Plan provides funds for rebuilding the rooftop landscape. In February 2003, the landscape architectural firm of Kim Perry and Associates was retained as prime consultant (Board Report, February 12, 2003) for the project design and construction administration. Kim Perry and the architectural sub-consultant, Henriquez Partners refined the original concept to be more free-flowing and exciting (Attachment 1). The designers will present the plans in full at the Board meeting. The revised concept was presented to Tai-chi groups on June 16, 2003 and was well received. On June 25, 2003 the concept was presented to the general public as part of a joint GVRD/VPB Open House.

It was estimated that there were about 100 attendees and 31 respondents filled out questionnaires, with overwhelming support for the concept as presented (97% support), as well as support for the individual elements in the design- water fountain (97%), multi-purpose structures (96%), wedding pavilion (94%), sculpture displays (97%) and washrooms (100%) (Attachment 2). There was also strong support for the reduced parking with provision for tour bus parking on the rooftop (71%).

The cost of this project is estimated to be \$3.4 million, and includes costs for consultant fees and disbursements, construction and contingencies. The funds available are \$2.9 million from the 2003-2005 Capital Plan and \$0.3 million from the 2000-2002 Capital Plan to give a total budget of \$3.2 million. The shortfall of \$200,000 will be raised through fund raising, with donations applied towards the wedding pavilion. If the funds for the wedding pavilion are not in place prior to construction, the wedding pavilion will be built later.

The anticipated time line for this project is:

Concept/ Schematic March- July 2003
Design Development July- September 2003

Contract Documents September- December 2003
Tendering January- February 2004
Construction March- December 2004

SUMMARY

The landscape design that has been developed will result in a beautiful and exciting plaza landscape that will meet the varied needs of both residents and tourists. In June 2003, the concept was presented to Taichi groups, and then to the general public in an Open House. There was overwhelming support for both the overall design and individual elements in the design. The estimated project cost of \$3.4 million will be met by \$2.9 million from the 2003- 2005 Capital Plan, \$0.3 million from the 2000- 2002 Capital Plan and \$200,000 through fund raising.

Staff recommend that the revised concept plan for the Queen Elizabeth Park Reservoir Landscape project be approved by the Board.

Attachments:

- 1. Concept Plan (8 pages)
- 2. Plaza Design Survey (4 pages)

Prepared by: Planning and Operations Division Board of Parks & Recreation Vancouver, BC PR/sw