



Date: April 22, 2004

TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
**SUBJECT: EVERETT CROWLEY MANAGEMENT PLAN -
APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANTS**

RECOMMENDATION

- A. *THAT the Board appoint LEES + Associates Consulting Ltd. to develop a Management Plan for Everett Crowley Park for the fee of \$35,000 plus gst and disbursements.***
- B. *THAT no legal rights 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

Consultant contracts in excess of \$30,000 are awarded by the Board;

On August 26, 1985, the following Board motion was carried:

THAT this Park Board commit itself to preserving this area in its naturalness and any enhancements to achieve this objective; and,

On December 9, 1996, the following Board motion was carried:

THAT this Park Board re-commit itself to the maintenance and preservation of the naturalness of Everett Crowley Park and any steps to enhance its naturalness.

On February 9, 2004, the Board approved the addition of Trillium, Everett Crowley and Angus Parks to the list of approved dog off-leash locations after consultation with the neighbouring community and key stakeholders to determine their support.

BACKGROUND

Everett Crowley Park is the city's fourth largest park in area at approximately 40 hectares and the second largest forested park. It was officially proclaimed a park in 1987.

Prior to this date the site was known as the Kerr Road dump, which operated as a city landfill site from 1944 to 1966. Throughout the 1970's, the park began to naturally re-colonize itself with plants and animals and by the 1980's, with local community support, the park became a focus

point for local environmentalists and other community and parkpartner groups wanting to participate in park stewardship initiatives.

By 1987, in response to community requests and the need to maintain and operate the park safely, the Park Board allocated \$50,000 from the 1987-1999 Capital Plan for an overall upgrade to the trail system and to the Avalon ponds and creek areas. Other funds have also been secured from local community businesses and individuals since 1987, for park enhancement.

Since the 1990's, the park has become a major destination site for various users, including dog walkers, special event participants and environmental stewardship groups. Conflicts have increased as more people come to use the park; introducing new activities along side established ones, while at the same time, trying to balance the environmentally sensitive needs of the park.

DISCUSSION

The Park Board allocated \$50,000, from the 2003-2005 Capital Plan, to commission a management plan. The terms of reference for the plan were developed by the newly formed Everett Crowley Park Steering Committee. This committee is representative of the following:

- Everett Crowley Park Committee (sub-committee of Champlain Heights Association);
- Evergreen (Foundation);
- Park Board (Vancouver East District / Planning & Research Branch); and
- Engineering Department (Environmental Protection Branch)

A call for proposals was advertized in the Journal of Commerce and a short list of three multi-disciplinary consulting teams were invited to an interview with the above steering committee. Three proposals for \$35,000 were received. The steering committee recommends LEES + Associates Consulting Ltd. for their detailed understanding of the ten main issues and concerns identified in the terms of reference and for their in depth environmental and landfill expertise.

SUMMARY

This report recommends, with support from the Everett Crowley Park steering committee, the appointment of LEES + Associates Consulting Ltd. to develop a Management Plan for Everett Crowley Park.

Prepared by:

Vancouver East District and Planning & Operations Division
Board of Parks & Recreation
Vancouver, B.C.
GDW