



Date: June 1, 2005

TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Site relocation for Khenko Public Art Work

RECOMMENDATION

- A. That the Board approve the relocation, installation and maintenance of the art work know as "Khenko", the Heron, at George Wainborn Park, with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager and the City's General Manager of Engineering Services.*
- B. That the Board receive a donation of \$154,000 from Concord Pacific Group Inc. to commission the fabrication of Khenko, a sculpture by the artist, Doug Taylor.*
- C. That the General Manager be authorized to enter into legal agreements with Concord Pacific Group Inc. to receive the funds to commission the art work, with the Artist for the fabrication of the work and with the City of Vancouver for use of City Street, on terms and conditions acceptable to the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services.*
- D. No legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licenses are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.*

POLICY

In 1988, the Park Board adopted the Acceptance Guidelines for Long Term Gifts of Public Art.

In 1997 the Board approved Site Review Guidelines and a process to more formally consider donations of public art and memorials.

The Park Board Arts Policy states that the Board provides a vibrant public realm and supports the experience of public art and cultural events in parks.

BACKGROUND

In November 1, 2004, the Board unanimously agreed to accept the donation of “Khenko”, a sculpture by artist Doug Taylor, to be installed in David Lam Park. Khenko is the First Nations name for the Great Blue Heron.

Following the Board’s approval of the installation, the exact location for the work was reconsidered. Stakeholders expressed concerns regarding the proximity of the work to residences to be built nearby. A second site on the eastern part of David Lam Park was proposed and another public process conducted. While very few attended the open house, those who did were mostly in support of the work.

The artist tested this site to assess if there was enough wind to animate the art work and concluded that this location was not suitable. Following discussions with the artist, Concord Pacific, the original donor and staff, staff propose to locate the work on the grassy knoll of the bullnose in George Wainborn Park. This site has adequate wind and is designated as a public art site calling for a vertical element.

The Concord Pacific Group Inc. has committed to donating the work.

DISCUSSION

Public consultation for the proposed site has included signage in George Wainborn Park for two weeks, a notice posted in the Roundhouse and letters sent to all residents within a two block radius. Seven responses have been received with four in favour and three opposed. The Roundhouse Arts and Recreation Society supports the work in the new location.

The proposed location for the sculpture is owned by the City under the responsibility of the Engineering Department. However, the de-facto care and custody of the site lies with the Park Board. Engineering has signed off on the installation subject to review of detailed engineering drawings. A legal agreement with the City of Vancouver for use of City Street will be developed, on terms and conditions acceptable to the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services.

A legal agreement with the Artist will also be drawn up addressing ownership, maintenance, moral rights and copyright and other terms related to the commissioning of the work. Maintenance funds for the work are in place.

SUMMARY

This new location will be suitable for the work, public art was in the original plan for the site, and the work will enhance the public realm.

Prepared by:
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SG