

Date: June 25, 2008



**TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board**  
**FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation**  
**SUBJECT: Emery Barnes Park Phase 2 Funding**

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

- A. THAT the Board endorse Recommendation A of the Council Report dated July 4, 2008 (attached).*
- B. THAT the Board approve the concept plan for Emery Barnes Park, Phase 2, as described in this report and illustrated in the attached plan.*

## **POLICY**

The Board approves capital expenditures. The Board approves conceptual designs for park developments and upgrades.

## **BACKGROUND**

The City/Park Board has assembled land for the purpose of developing Phase 2 of Emery Barnes Park in Downtown South, bordered by Seymour, Davie and Helmcken Streets. Phase 2 of the park will encompass the entire block with the exception of the existing development at the corner of Seymour and Helmcken Street. Phase 2 of the park, including the closed lane will be 5334.63m<sup>2</sup>. The total park area will be 8971.67m<sup>2</sup>.

As outlined in the attached Council Report, the Park Board is preparing to demolish existing buildings along Seymour Street, remove overhead services and bury them in the lane and develop Phase 2 of Emery Barnes Park.

On June 19, 2008, staff scheduled an open house to elicit input from neighbours surrounding the park. They were given a summary/questionnaire to fill in and these comments have been used in the design refinement of the original conceptual plan of 2001.

## **DISCUSSION**

Phase 2 of the park will feature a large oval central lawn with trees lining the perimeter and a path surrounding the lawn area. Benches and play equipment which is in keeping with the intent of the originally approved concept plan will remain as features in the extension. There will be the addition of a fenced-in dog area (which came through as a strong recommendation from the surveys), seating areas with amenities such as chess tables, picnic tables and definitions at entry points along Seymour Street. A significant playground area has been shown which is considered to be an important element in the neighbourhood. The playground will extend east and west in the park. There will be lighting in the park of the same design and style as that existing in Phase 1. The park will be totally accessible.

The request for funding of a total estimated amount of \$5.50 million is based on the overall administration, design, preparation, design development and installation of the second portion of the Emery Barnes Park.

## **SUMMARY**

The long awaited completion of Phase 2 of Emery Barnes Park will provide a green refuge largely for passive recreation for the residents of Downtown South.

Prepared by:

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CBL