

Date: July 6, 2009



TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board
FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Pandora Park Community Garden

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the Board give permission to use a portion of Pandora Park as a community garden, with all specifications to the satisfaction of the General Manager.*
- B. THAT the Board grant a 5 year license to operate the community garden to the Pandora Park Community Garden Society, with all terms consistent with the Community Garden Policy.*

POLICY

The Board approved the revised Community Garden Policy (Appendix 1) on September 19, 2005. The Community Gardens Policy provides for community gardens to be operated on park land.

BACKGROUND

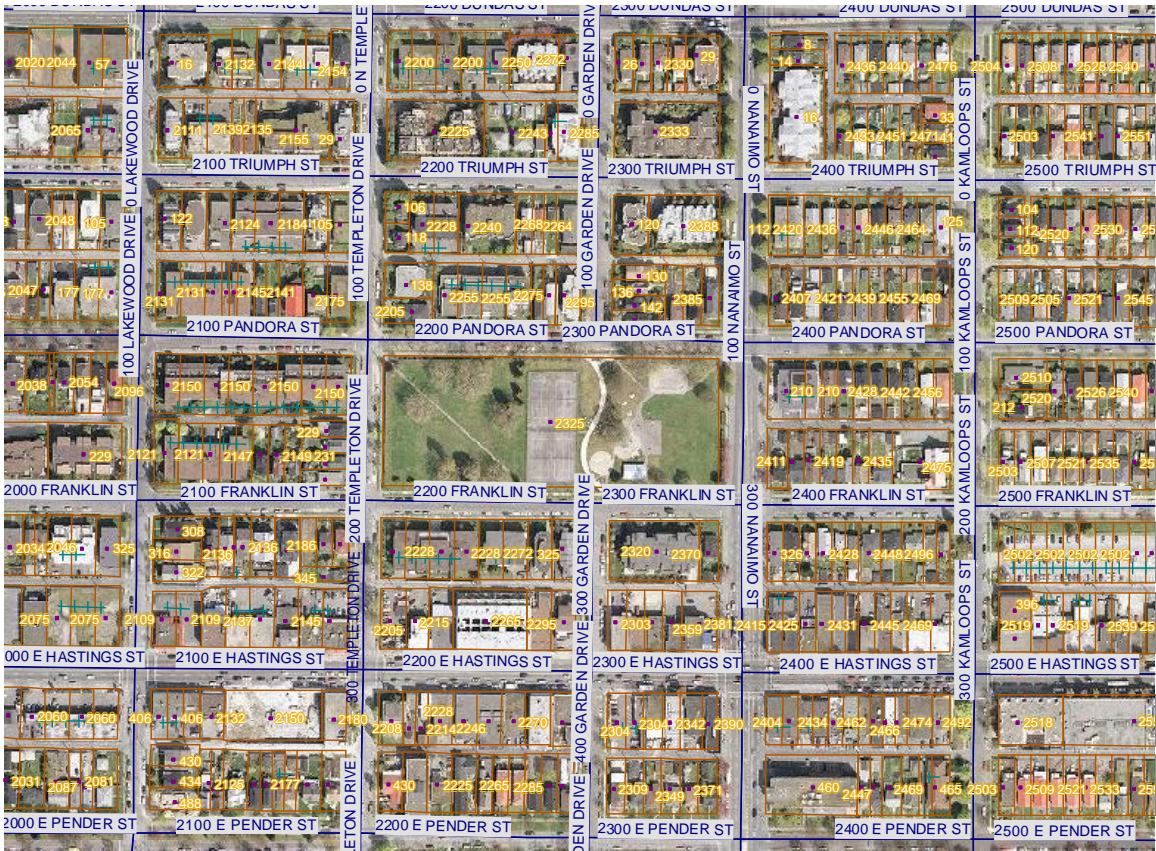
In May of this year the Board received a proposal from the Pandora Park Community Garden Society to build a community garden in Pandora Park.

The Pandora Community Garden Society is an organization that received its Certificate of Incorporation under the Society Act in April 2009. The purpose of the Society is to:

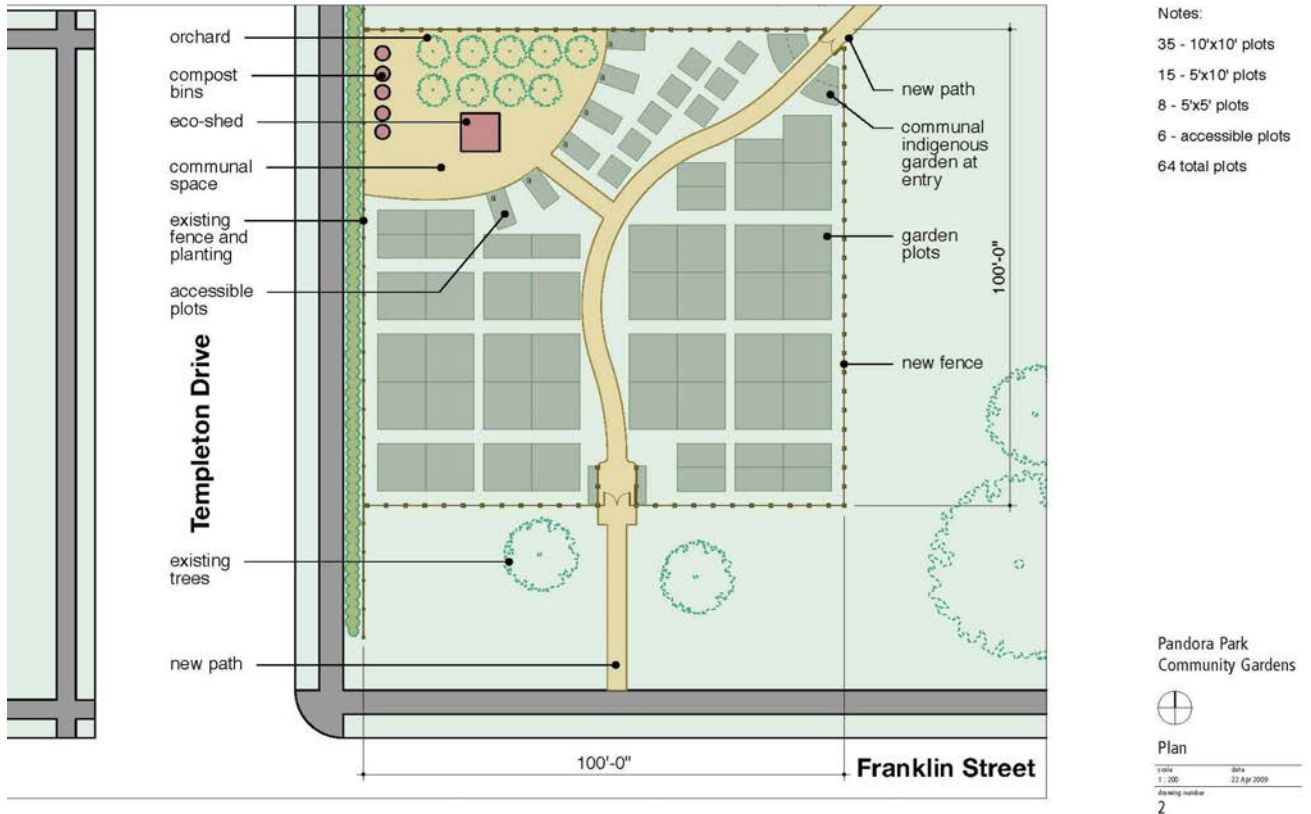
- a. Provide an opportunity for local residents to grow affordable organic produce, flowers and herbs.
- b. Provide an informal, safe environment and occasion for horticultural, social, educational and community interaction between gardeners and between the gardeners and the public. To build community in the Hastings Sunrise/Grandview Woodlands area.
- c. Provide an opportunity for environmentally sound organic food production, given that locally grown food can help mitigate the process of global warming through the emission of transportation-related greenhouse gasses.
- d. Add to the aesthetics of the surrounding community.

DISCUSSION

Pandora Park is located one block north of East Hastings and Nanaimo Street.



The Pandora Community Gardeners submitted a proposed plan for the garden showing a layout for the area. The proposed site for the community garden is 100' by 100'. Sixty-four plots are planned for the garden which includes various sizes of plots as well as six accessible plots. The Pandora Park Community Garden Society will be responsible for the cost of the new proposed pathway and fence. The cost for the water service for the community garden will be covered by the Park Board's existing capital budget for park development.



Proposed Plan for Community Garden at Pandora Park

In June 2009, staff undertook a consultation process that involved distributing flyers (Appendix II) within a two block radius of the area surrounding the park. The Park Board received 12 responses from local residents (6 emails, 5 phone calls and 1 Canada Post). All responses supported the community garden. No opposition to the proposal was received.

SUMMARY

The proposed plan for a Community Garden at Pandora Park meets the criteria of the Community Garden Policy. If approved, the Pandora Park Community Garden will provide valuable recreational activities and stimulate community involvement.

Prepared by:
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