

Date: June 29, 1995

SUBJECT: TROUT LAKE RESTORATION PROJECT - TOWARDS CREATING A
TWENTY YEAR VISION

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board:

1. Approve Appendix A as a status report of recommendations that are complete, underway or where agreement in principle has been reached.
2. Consider the recommendations identified in Appendix B for approval after further feasibility studies and costing proposals have been developed.
3. Request the Trout Lake Restoration Committee in conjunction with Park Board staff to present an annual status report of these action plan.

BACKGROUND

Swimming at Trout Lake, a very popular activity, has been curtailed on a more frequent basis each year over the last several years. More than 18 months ago a group, the Trout Lake Committee, was formed to consider the problem. They found that human influence, use and development had changed the natural functioning of the lake.

In order to expand the role of the public in reviewing this problem a series of events occurred with the support of the community Cultural Development initiative. A subsequent group, the Trout Lake Restoration Committee and the Trout Lake Community Action Plan are the outcomes of this effort.

The public process involved more than 500 people who participated in a wide range of activities including:

- interpretive mapping and lake walks,
- an open house,
- the Tile Table project,
- lake inventory and walk,
- a "Wacky Love Affair with Trout Lake",
- workshops for:
 - Creating an Action Plan for the Lake
 - Connecting with Schools
 - Community Public Art Program
 - development of visual Communication materials
 - Oral history pilot project
 - Community organization structure

The Community Action Plan is a "Twenty Year Vision" and includes a number of recommendations divided into five main categories:

1. Environmentally Sensitive Area.
2. Water Quality
3. Biological Diversity
4. Inventorying and Monitoring
5. Continued Community Involvement and Education Staff met with representatives of the Restoration Committee and discussed the Vision report's recommendations. A number of these are implemented. Others are in progress; while others require further study and funding prior to implementation.

Several action plan activities will be ongoing over a period of many years.

DISCUSSION

A detailed review of the recommendations, their status those responsible for taking action and comments on their implementation is attached as Appendices A & B.

One of the major benefits, however is the extent of Community involvement. This is in large part due to the energy, commitment and dedication of the many community volunteers and staff who have pursued this effort.

Several areas such as stream daylighting, boardwalk construction and indigenous planting will require further study and discussion and the development of cost estimates for further funding consideration. See descriptions in Appendix B.

Other program and communication strategies already have the endorsement of the broader Trout Lake groups and these efforts will continue.

CONCLUSION

In summary, many of the recommendations represent very thoughtful consideration of the options for the longterm future for Trout Lake. With a collaborative effort on the part of all parties many of the recommendations presented in the Trout Lake Restoration Community Action Plan 1995 are ongoing and will continue to result in changes and enhancements to the area.

Prepared by:

Environment and Operations Division
Board of Parks & Recreation
City of Vancouver

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