Date: September 13, 1995

SUBJECT: PARK PLANNING SECTION REORGANIZATION

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve the establishment of a new excluded position entitled "Manager of Park Property Acquisitions and Research", classification to be subject to a review by the Human Resources Department.

BOARD POLICY

There is no applicable Board Policy.

BACKGROUND

The Park Planning section presently is comprised of a Park Planner (paygrade 31), a Park Planner 1 (pay grade 28), and a Planning Assistant III(pay grade 21). One hundred percent of the funding for the Park Planner and Park Planner 1 are drawn out of the operating budget, while the Planning Assistant position is funded out of the Capital Budget. The Park Planner 1 has recently retired and the position is presently vacant.

DISCUSSION

Increasingly, the workload of the Park Planning section has expanded and much more involved with the community and other civic departments. In these situations it is important to attract individuals who can conduct projects with a high degree of independence and represent the Board's position. For this reason, it is proposed that a more senior position be created entitled "Manager of Park Properties and Research". A description of the proposed position is attached as Appendix I. The classification of this position is subject to the Human Resources' Department review of it, but it is estimated that the total annual costs including fringe benefits will be about \$79,000. The classification review will be part of the new job evaluation process.

Funding for this new position exists within the existing operating budget. Changes will take place in the source of funding for the Park Planner and the Park Planner I. While presently these positions are still charged to the operating budget in the revised organization most of the funding (ñ 80%) for the Park Planner will be drawn out of the operating budget and all of the Park Planner I's time will be billed to the capital budget on a required basis. Initially the Park Planner I will focus on Hastings Park and time will be billed to that portion of the capital budget.

The existing and proposed organization structure are shown below:

Existing

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> Proposed ÚÄÄÄÄÄÄÄÄÄÄÄ ³ Manager ³ ÀÄÄÄÄÄÄÄÄÄÄÄÄ

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The existing staff budget for this section is \$183,900 and under the proposed reorganization this would increase to \$263,100. As noted above the additional funding is to be billed to the Capital Plan.

An alternative to this reorganization is to increase the utilization of consultants, which is more costly and does not build an organizational knowledge base.

Given the nature and scope of the work, the Manager position is to be an excluded position.

JUSTIFICATION

The creation of a new position will enable the planning section to respond more effectively to the challenges which face the section.

Prepared by: Planning & Development Division

Board of Parks & Recreation City of Vancouver PR:sp Attachment

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