

February 13, 1997

SUBJECT: 1997 COMMUNITY PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the siting of the Clinton Park Kiosk project funded by the City of Vancouver's Community Public Art program and, subject to regular review procedures and, with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

POLICY

The Park Board's Art Policy and Recommendations support the development of a process for Park Board implementation of the civic public art program. (Recommendation 4.3)

BACKGROUND

The Community Public Art Program of the City of Vancouver invites artists and residents to collaborate on the design and implementation of neighbourhood-based public art works. The program goals are:

- to create a more humane and livable city by linking the arts to everyday life
- to support resident participation in local art projects in ways that respect the diversity of culture and interests of the area
- to encourage the creation of works having both artistic and community benefit.

This program is funded by City Council, through capital funds, and by the Vancouver Foundation. The program commits a sum equal to 10% of the value of each work to a maintenance reserve to provide for maintenance.

All projects are sited on public land and some have been proposed for parks. Four of the projects selected from the 1996 applications have identified a park as an appropriate site. These projects are in various stages of development. This report recommends that the Board approve the siting of one of these projects on parkland.

DISCUSSION

Clinton Park Kiosk

The community at Clinton Park proposes the building of a kiosk to serve as

both a meeting place and a public notice board.(Appendix 1) The artist is working with residents on the design. The project has the support of the Hastings Community Centre Association which is administering the funds for the project. Design and anchoring plans will be approved by Park Board staff prior to installation. The Clinton Neighbourhood Committee is composed of residents near the park and has been very active in improving the park.

Other projects in the process of development include a bench project involving youth and sponsored by the Strathcona Community Centre Association. The Farmfolk/ Cityfolk Society are committed to creating a vertical garden structure and mural that will see street youth involved in design and construction. The third is a proposal for a rammed earth maze that will involve school children in the design of natural objects embedded into the earth.

The Review Guidelines for donations of public art and memorials that are currently being developed address gifts to major, city-wide parks. The review process for neighbourhood includes approvals from Risk Management and others as required, and consultation with Park Board Operations and Planning staff. To assess support from the neighbourhood, flyers are distributed in the blocks adjacent to the park. The appropriate community centre associations and other affected neighbourhood organizations are also consulted.

CONCLUSION

Community Public Art projects involve participation by community members in art-making and in developing community links.

Prepared by:
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