

Date: April 29, 1999

SUBJECT: LITTER AMENDMENT TO PARKS CONTROL BY-LAW

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board amend Sections 1, 3 and 14 of the Parks Control By-law as outlined in this report in order to control the placing of domestic garbage in Park Board litter containers.

BACKGROUND

In December of 1997, the Board approved the recommendations included in the report on the re-engineering of litter/waste control. A waste audit conducted for this re-engineering project by Stearns and Conrad Engineering in the fall of 1996 found that up to 30% of garbage collected in neighbourhood parks was brought from residences. This problem increased in February 1999 with the implementation of the two can per residence limit in the City of Vancouver. The problem is expected to increase further as the GVRD moves closer to their policy of a utility charge for residential collection.

Recommendation #4 of the re-engineering report addressed the need for public education regarding the problem of residential garbage in park receptacles. Part of this education process included the installation of decals or signs on the garbage cans informing the public that the disposal of residential garbage into park receptacles is contrary to the Parks Control By-law and offenders are subject to a \$2,000 fine.

Legal Services has advised that the present by-law does not make the disposal of residential garbage in park receptacles illegal. An amendment to the by-law defining what can be considered "legal" park garbage is required to ensure a successful prosecution should the Board desire to prosecute an alleged offender. In consultation with Legal Services, staff propose the appended amendment to the Parks Control By-law.

Prepared by:
Stanley District, Board of Parks & Recreation
Vancouver, B.C.
RET:ss
Attachment

BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CITY OF VANCOUVER

A By-law to amend
the "Parks Control By-law",
being a By-law enacted by the
Board of Parks and Recreation

THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION, in open meeting assembled,
enacts as follows:

1. Section 1 of the Parks Control By-law is amended by adding:

" (k) "LITTER" means garbage, refuse and all other waste material which is the waste product of something purchased within a park or brought into a park for use or consumption within the park."

2. Section 3 is amended in Clause (a) by deleting the word "waste" and substituting the word "litter" in the statement "and no person shall deposit any waste".

3. Section 14 is amended in Clause (i) by deleting the words "deposit or leave or cause to be deposited or left any matter or thing or"

4. The Parks Control By-law is further amended by inserting after Section 14 these new sections:

" (l) No person shall deposit any garbage, refuse or other waste material in a park, except for litter as defined in Section 1(k) and which is deposited in compliance with Section 14(m) .

 (m) No person shall deposit litter in a park except in litter containers provided, maintained or authorized by the Board.

 (n) In any area of a park where litter containers are not provided, all litter shall be removed from the park by the persons responsible for its presence."