



Date: July 18, 2001

**TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation**  
**FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation**  
**SUBJECT: CONCEPT PLAN - DR. SUN YAT-SEN PARK  
FORECOURT**

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#### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Board approve the design concept for the courtyard area at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Park.

#### **DISCUSSION**

As a component of the Chinatown Revitalization Program, City Council will be considering allocating \$80,000 towards improving the forecourt area of the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Park and Gardens. The forecourt is under the jurisdiction of the Board and serves as an internal courtyard linking Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Gardens and the Chinese Cultural Centre Museum. This courtyard functions as a community gathering place and as a site for special events and festivities. Unfortunately, drainage problems limit the use of the area; especially during rainy periods.

The proposal involves redeveloping the courtyard while retaining a green image for the area (see Appendix A). The courtyard symmetry is retained in the design through a "circle in the square" concept which enhances pedestrian flows on the four sides of the courtyard. Trees are to be planted in each of the four corners. The grass circle will be slightly mounded to promote improved drainage in conjunction with the continuous perimeter drain around the lawn. These changes will allow a wide variety of programmes including art displays, music, dance, and other performances to take place in the courtyard. The proposed improvements will greatly enhance the usability and attractiveness of this area.

The proposal is supported by the Chinatown Revitalization Committee which represents more than twenty of the area's social, cultural, resident and business groups. Representatives from the Chinese Cultural Centre and the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Park and Gardens also support the park improvements (see attachments).

## **CONCLUSION**

This proposal has the support of the local community and is funded through the City's Capital Plan. Any additional operating costs for this proposal will be included in the Board's budget request for 2002. The improvements are in keeping with the Park Board's Strategic Plan for park development. Subject to Park Board approval and City funding, staff are prepared to supervise the implementation of this project later this fall.

Prepared by:

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APPENDIX A



