



Date: February 13, 2004

TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: CAPITAL BUDGET ADVANCE APPROVALS

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council be asked to approve capital spending of \$2,030,000 for current Park Board projects, outlined in the attached Council Report, in advance of the 2004 Park Board Capital Budget to be forwarded to Council later this year.

POLICY

The Board has the authority over content and distribution of the Capital Budget for parks and recreation within the fiscal envelope approved by City Council.

BACKGROUND

The 2003 - 2005 Park Board Capital Plan allocates a total of \$45,500,000 for parks and recreation capital projects to be distributed over a three year cycle. Council is scheduled to consider approval of the 2004 Capital Budget in April, and an advance approval is required for projects which are already in progress or need to start immediately. These projects, and the amount of advance funded required in each case, are listed in the attached report.

DISCUSSION

Staff will present the proposed 2004 Park Board Capital Budget at an upcoming Finance Committee meeting and subsequently report on this matter at a subsequent Board meeting. Given Board approval, the Capital Budget will go forward for Council consideration in April. Until Council approval is secured, budget commitments cannot be made.

This report seeks Board and Council approval of advance release of Capital funds for projects which should not be deferred until the 2004 Capital Budget is finalized. Much of the work involved is either an ongoing phase of a project previously initiated, or is seasonally driven. For example, the largest single allocation is for the seawall repair and widening project, which must be initiated as soon as possible to be completed before the summer.

The 2004 Park Board Capital Budget is estimated to be in the range of \$13.5 million; the amount requested for advance allocation therefore represents about 15% of this total.

SUMMARY

The Board is asked to authorize a report to Council seeking the release of \$2,030,000 in 2004 Capital Budget funds so that urgent parks and recreation projects can be initiated.

Prepared by:

Planning and Operations
Board of Parks & Recreation
Vancouver, B.C.