

Date: June 02, 2006



TO: Board Members - Parks and Recreation
FROM: General Manager - Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Charleson Park: Statutory Right-of-Way

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the Board approve the modification and reduction in area of a statutory right-of-way in perpetuity in favour of the City of Vancouver over a portion of Charleson Park based on the details provided in this report, and Appendices A and B, subject to the legal documents being prepared to the satisfaction of the General Manager of Parks and Recreation;*
- B. THAT the Board approve the replacement of an underground City of Vancouver sewer pump station with an above-ground station, subject to all details being the satisfaction of the General Manager of Parks and Recreation.*

POLICY

The *Vancouver Charter* specifies that the Board has “exclusive jurisdiction and control of all areas designated as permanent public parks” (Section 488.1), and that “exclusive jurisdiction and control of real property includes the authority to determine how such real property shall be used” (Section 488.6).

BACKGROUND

Charleson Park is located along the south shore of False Creek and the City’s existing underground pump station is located at the south edge of the park by the sports field.

The underground pump station presents a safety concern for City employees who must enter the station and stringent confined-entry procedures must be followed.

DISCUSSION

The City wants to close their underground Oak and Sixth Pumping Station (on the south edge of Charleson Park near Oak Street and 6th Avenue) with an above-ground pump station which would be a small, attractive building landscaped by existing trees and shrubs. The surface immediately adjacent to the new building would be enhanced, including improving public access through the area by upgrading an informal path that the public has created by frequent use.

The existing right-of-way that the City has for the existing pump station would be slightly modified to suit the location of the new pump station which cannot be constructed on the site at the existing pump station because the latter must remain operational until the new one has been constructed. The revised right-of-way would be 95 square metres smaller than the existing one.

CONCLUSION

The granting of the construction of a new pump station and the modification of the right-of-way to accommodate this project is recommended. The structure has been attractively designed, the immediate surrounding area would be enhanced and the safety of the City's employees who must frequently enter the pump station would be significantly improved. Appendix A, showing the proposed right-of-way change on which the pump station is located, is attached.

Prepared by:

Stanley District
Board of Parks & Recreation
Vancouver, BC

RET:yf