

Date: January 22, 2009



TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board
FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Approval of Statutory Right-of Way in Emery Barnes Park

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve the granting of a statutory right-of-way (SRW) to place two electrical service vaults in Emery Barnes Park as shown in Appendices A and B, to BC Hydro.

POLICY

All interests in park lands must be approved by the Board.

BACKGROUND

A number of utility corridors and underground services run through lands under the jurisdiction of the Park Board, protected in most instances by a statutory right-of-way (SRW), to ensure that access for the purposes of inspection, maintenance, repair, and related functions is secured over the long-term, even in the event that the land in question ceases to be a park.

DISCUSSION

To facilitate the construction of the second phase of Emery Barnes Park the City has approved in principle the closure and consolidation of the lane between Richards Street and Seymour Street (consolidation report goes to Council February 17, 2009). The existing overhead utilities in the lane will be placed underground. BC Hydro has planned and designed the alignment of the utilities in consultation with the Park Board and City Engineering Services, Streets and Utilities. Two pre-cast concrete vaults (Transformer Street Vault and Vista Switch Chamber) are required by BC Hydro as part of the undergrounding works. The only visible sign of the vaults in the park are two vault lids which we propose design to a standard that will be complimentary to the park.

BC Hydro has requested a SRW for the two vaults in the park. The proposed location is at the southwest corner of the existing park in an area that will have the least visual impact on the use of the park. The size of the SRW is 4.46m x 10.3m (45.9m²).

SUMMARY

The Park Board is asked to approve the proposed SRW in Emery Barnes Park, as described in this report.

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