

Date: May 20, 2009



**TO:** Board Members – Vancouver Park Board  
**FROM:** General Manager – Parks and Recreation  
**SUBJECT:** Yaletown Park - Temporary Installation "Light the City"

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## RECOMMENDATION

*THAT the Board approve the use of Yaletown Park for a temporary light installation as part of the City's "Light the City" program during the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.*

## POLICY

The Board has jurisdiction over the use of parks.

## BACKGROUND

The City of Vancouver as the host of the Games has a program to create a welcoming and celebratory atmosphere for the Games that includes street banners and festive lighting, signage and public art, a host city pavilion and an ambassador program, as well as celebrations like the torch relay.

## DISCUSSION

The attached Council Report is seeking funding for a program called "Light the City", a nightly celebration of light and colour to welcome and entertain residents and visitors. One of the proposed sites for this program is Yaletown Park at the corner of Nelson and Mainland Streets, adjacent to one of the designated pedestrian corridors (noon to midnight).

Details for this light installation have not yet been developed. The project is coordinated by the City's Office of Olympic and Paralympic Operations who have had an initial meeting with various Park Board staff to discuss the proposal. Park Board staff will continue to be involved in the design development and implementation phase to ensure that operational and functional concerns are met. The Council Report is asking for a budget of \$435,000 for the "Light the City" program, of that, some \$100,000 are intended for the Yaletown Park installation.

The project will be part of a public information program sponsored by the City's Office of Olympic and Paralympic Operations that will introduce the various components of "Light the City". Park Board staff will ensure that any residents' concerns are considered in the design development and implementation.

Staff recommend that the use of Yaletown Park for a temporary light installation be approved.

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