

Date: February 18, 2010



TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board
FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Concept Plan Approval - Fraserview Park Upgrade

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve the concept plan for the proposed Fraserview Park Upgrade as described in this report and illustrated in Appendix 1.

POLICY

The Board approves new park designs.

BACKGROUND

Fraserview Park is a 1.27 hectare park on the east side of Vancouver located at 61st Avenue and Victoria Street. During the planning of the current 2009-2011 capital plan, the community (Sir James Douglas Elementary School PAC) submitted a written proposal documenting a wish list for activities and general improvements at Fraserview Park.

In January 2010 the Board awarded the consultancy for the Upgrade of Fraserview Park to the landscape architecture firm Van der Zalm and Associates Inc. Park Board staff and the consultant team have met with the community at two open houses to consider options for redevelopment and identify programming requirements. During the most recent open house, the community responded to four concept plan options. The attached concept plan is the community's preferred option. The total budget for the project is \$700,000.00.

Upon the Board's approval of the concept plan, Van der Zalm and Associates Inc. will, under the direction of Park Development staff and in consultation with our maintenance departments, proceed to design development stage and produce a set of construction drawings, specifications and tender documents by early May 2010.

The purpose of this report is for the Board to approve the preferred concept plan (see Appendix 1).

DISCUSSION

During the first open house held in January 2010 at the Fraserview Boys and Girls Club, the community considered the features and park elements they wished to incorporate in the park upgrade and responded to a comment form. Respondents favored a perimeter

walking trail, retention of an open grass field, upgraded children's playground, a variety of seating areas throughout the park, fitness stations, and additional recreation opportunities.

Subsequent to the initial open house, the park features desired by the community were developed by the consultant team into four concept plan options. The variation in the options reflected different spatial relationships between park elements. These concept plan options were presented to the community at a second open house in February at the Fraserview Boys and Girls Club.

The preferred concept plan (see appendix 1) was very well received by the community and Park Board staff as it addresses the need for universal design throughout the park and increases the usability and aesthetic appeal of the park. Features of the preferred concept plan include retaining a small central grass field and tee ball area; addition of a perimeter trail with circuit training; upgraded playground; half-court w/basketball hoop; a variety of seating options and locations; small water play park; garden beds; improved circulation and walking paths between the Victoria Drive city sidewalk and the park; distinct park entrances; and additional landscaping around the perimeter of the Boys and Girls Club.

Upon approval of the Fraserview Park Upgrade Preferred Concept Plan the consultants will begin focusing on detailed design development and production of construction documents for tendering in early May. Ongoing review of the park upgrade design as it progresses from concept plan to detailed design development and tender documentation is planned with our Operations and Park Development staff.

Park construction is anticipated to begin in June 2010 and the park upgrade is scheduled to be complete in March 2011. The park will be open to the public in the Spring of 2011 with the exception of the grass field which will require a further year to establish satisfactorily prior to use by the community.

SUMMARY

The recommended preferred concept plan for the Fraserview Park Upgrade is well supported by the community and staff. The park upgrade is designed to increase the number of passive and active recreational options and activities available to park users of all ages and abilities.

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Appendix 1
Fraserview Park Upgrade Preferred Concept Plan 17.02.10 – presented to Board.pdf