



Date: March 4, 2011

**TO:** Board Members – Vancouver Park Board  
**FROM:** General Manager – Parks and Recreation  
**SUBJECT:** AAA Horse & Carriage in Stanley Park Ltd – Relocation

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## RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the Board approve that staff investigate the relocation of the AAA Horse & Carriage in Stanley Park Ltd from its current location to a location adjacent to the Information booth as identified in this report**
- B. THAT the Board approve the use of the outstanding balance of the \$100,000 capital improvement spending from the current license term for a traffic study for the relocation of the Horse and Carriage Staging area and the preliminary design and costing of a new ticket kiosk including additional public washrooms.**
- C. THAT all legal documentation is to be in a form which is satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver and the General Manager of the Park Board.**
- D. THAT the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**
- E. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licences are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties**

## BACKGROUND

AAA Horse & Carriage in Stanley Park Ltd ( AAA ) has been operating a horse drawn carriage service in Stanley Park since 1985. In 1993 the Board entered into a five year agreement that included an option for a further five years.

In October, 2002 the Board agreed to a renewal of the license agreement for five years from May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2008 and in May of 2008 agreed to a further renewal of five years from May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2013.

## DISCUSSION

### Operational Overview

For over 25 years AAA has operated a popular and well-run horse and carriage business in Stanley Park. Apart from its carriage rides AAA is a strong supporter of the community with involvement with groups such as Make-A-Wish Foundation, Vancouver East Community Picnic and Kettle Friendship Society. Since 1996 has provided over 10,000 educational visits for inner city schools to its operation in Stanley Park.

In return for recognizing the requirements of AAA's business the Board has allocated the following areas of Stanley Park, totaling about 1 acre, for their exclusive use:

- Paddock of approximately 31,000 sq. ft. adjacent to the Stanley Park Service Yard
- Approximately 9,000 sq. ft. for an office, stables, and overnight carriage storage in the Service Yard.
- A ticket sales kiosk of 100 sq. ft. on Stanley Park Drive at Coal Harbour, plus 2700 sq. ft. of land for client and carriage use.
- Free overnight parking in the Central parking lot for AAA's express bus

AAA has paid the Board the following monies over the past 5 years

2006	\$46,715
2007	\$39,165
2008	\$46,061
2009	\$42,540
2010	\$43,008

### Proposal

AAA has proposed the relocation of the existing Staging area and ticket kiosk including additional public washrooms to a location adjacent to the Information Booth. ( see attached appendix ) AAA would provide the capital for the initial Traffic Study and Design consultancy from its current term outstanding capital spending commitment of \$100,000. Upon the completion of the Traffic study and Preliminary Design and costing, and a viable cost sharing model being finalized, staff will return to the Board with a recommendation for the approval of scope, capital investment, and any modifications to the AAA license terms.

### Benefits

The new location is projected to provide increased returns to the Park Board due to the higher visibility of its location, improved access to parking, safer access to the Staging area and improved universal access. In addition the new location would allow the horses to start on level ground and reduces the return trip time to their barn by 50%.

**Summary,**

This project would provide the public with an increased level of washroom service than the current facilities allow. AAA has performed a well-managed transportation service for tourists for over 25 years and the new location will increase revenues and provide a safer environment for both the horses and the users of this service.

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# Appendix 1: Proposed Location for AAA Horse and Carriage

