



Date: April 30, 2015

TO: Park Board Chair and Commissioners
FROM: General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Special Event - Clean Up the Ocean Concert 2015

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve a request from Upcycle the Gyres Society, organizers of the Clean Up the Ocean initiative, for an 800 person concert at Prospect Point Picnic Area Field on July 4, 2015, from 1:00pm to 8:00pm.

POLICY

Park Board approval is required for special events not included on the annual Calendar of Major Special Events and/or that are in variance with one or more Park Board by-laws.

BACKGROUND

The Upcycle the Gyres Society (UpGyres) is a registered not-for-profit organization that works to stop plastic waste from reaching the ocean, recovers plastic waste from the ocean, and transforms it into valuable resources.

In order to generate funds to implement initiatives aimed at informing, preventing and cleaning-up marine plastic pollution, UpGyres has requested approval to host an inaugural Clean Up the Ocean concert at Prospect Point Picnic Area Field in summer 2015. Funds raised from this initiative will be used to purchase, install, and operate plastic to fuel machines in remote coastal communities, and for research and development of technologies supporting plastic pollution recovery, and zero emissions, zero waste vessels. The event will also raise awareness of plastic waste and its damaging effects on the marine environment and promote actions to combat this issue. If successful, this concert initiative could become an annual summer event.

DISCUSSION

The Clean Up the Ocean initiative will be a ticketed event featuring live and DJ music performances, vendor kiosks, information booths, and food services. Ticket prices for the concert are expected to be approximately \$50, and the event will run from 1:00pm to 8:00pm. The UpGyres concert will host a maximum of 800 guests.

This application has been reviewed and conditionally approved by the City's FEST Committee (which includes representatives from the VPD, VF&RS, BC Ambulance Service, City Special Events, Traffic Management and the Park Board), subject to Board approval and the submission of final event plans (for site security, health and safety, emergency response, communications, ingress/egress and green event operations).

SUMMARY

The Clean Up the Ocean concert is a fundraising initiative that will contribute to raising awareness of the impacts of plastics in our oceans and beaches, and promote caring for the environment. Through its execution, the event will also activate an important public space and enhance the vibrancy of the city. Staff have carefully reviewed the many aspects of this special event application with the organizers and are confident that the initiative can be executed successfully. Accordingly, staff recommend that the Board approve the request as outlined above.

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Preliminary Site Map - Clean Up the Ocean Concert - Prospect Point, Stanley Park

