



Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

Tom Cone Memorial Bench Public Art Donation - Jericho Beach Park

May 25, 2015

Visit the Park Board website at: vancouverparks.ca



Recommendation

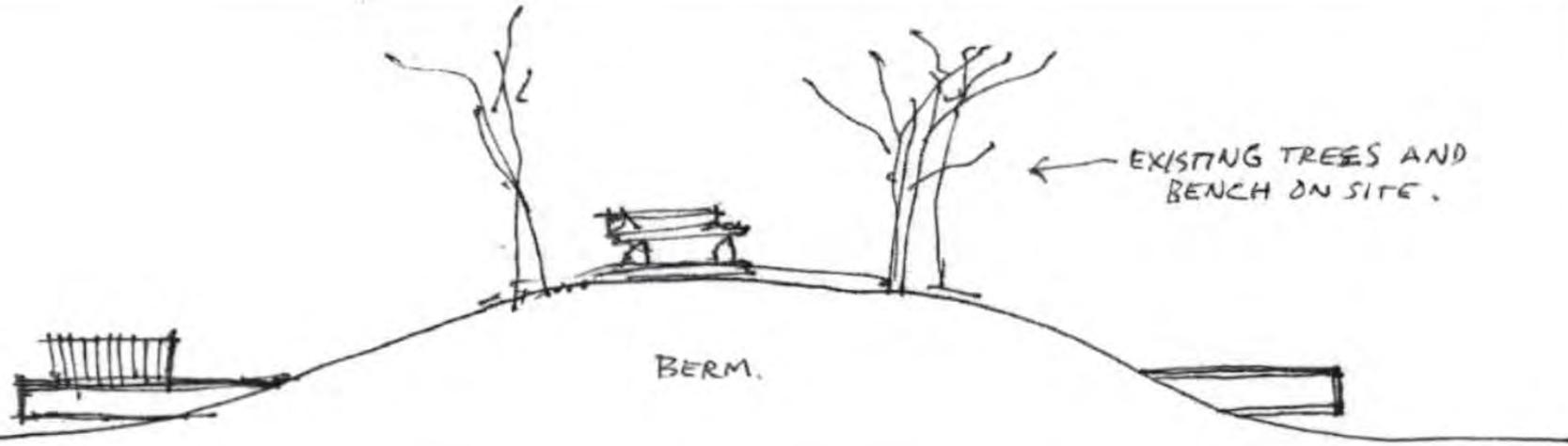
THAT the Vancouver Park Board accept the donation of an integrated sculpture/bench commemorating the work of Vancouver's renowned playwright Tom Cone, the first recipient of the Mayor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement in Arts and Culture; to be located in Jericho Beach Park with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.



Background

- A public art donation proposal was received from Music on Main Society in the Fall of 2012. The proposal was to erect a memorial sculpture/bench in Jericho Beach Park commemorating the work of recognized cultural innovator and playwright Tom Cone.
- The work would be designed by artist Alan Storey. The location commemorates Cone's annual community summer solstice gathering at this site.
- The standard Park Board artwork donation process has been followed including technical, site and aesthetic reviews and community consultation.

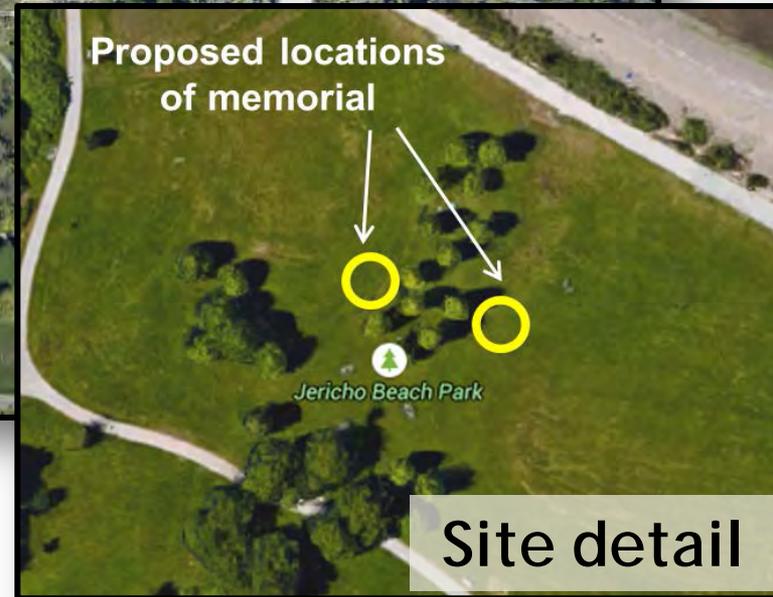
The Sculpture/Bench



- Sculpture is playfully designed to appear as if it extends under an existing berm
- Text of Cone's poem, *Somewhere Along the Line*, will be incised along the front edge of the bench
- Eastern side: 12' long X 18" high x 15" wide
- Western side: 6' long x 18" high x 15" wide
- Grass will be reinforced to prevent ground wear



Installation Site - Jericho Beach Park





Donation Process

- The letter is from a sponsor organization and accepts responsibility for all costs associated with the project.
- Technical approval and site approvals from staff have been obtained.
- Aesthetic review was completed by the Public Art Committee with unanimous approval of the artwork and the siting.
- Community consultation was completed; with majority of responses positive
- The site is culturally and historically significant to the Coast Salish communities and an archaeological study will be required prior to construction to protect the cultural integrity of the site.



Community Consultation

- Consultation Process included:
 - ✓ Signage on site
 - ✓ Notice posted at the Jericho Sailing Centre, Jericho Arts Centre, West Point Grey Community Centre, Jericho Tennis Club, Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and Brock House
 - ✓ Notice to residents within two blocks of park
 - ✓ Advertisement in Vancouver Courier
 - ✓ Social media campaign
 - ✓ Online survey
 - ✓ Stakeholder engagement with Jericho Beach Park stakeholders

- Online survey/feedback period of 21-days and a total of 604 responses were received:
 - 77% (465) responded positively
 - 4% (24) responded negatively
 - 19% (115) responded neutrally



Summary

This proposal meets the Board's criteria for "Long Term Gifts of Public Art and Memorials".

The artwork is a unique, subtle and poetic commemoration of Tom Cone's significant contribution to the city's cultural life; and is integrated into a piece of functional park furniture.



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