

Arbutus Greenway

Excerpted from Minutes 2016-05-02

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Final motion as amended:

MOVER: Commissioner Evans SECONDER: Commissioner Wiebe

WHEREAS:

- 1. The Arbutus Corridor is a 42 acre ribbon of land granted to Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) in 1902 by the Province of British Columbia that runs approximately 9 km from False Creek to the Fraser River;
- 2. The last passenger train ran on the railway tracks in 1954 and the last freight train in 2001;
- 3. In 2000, after extensive public consultation, the City of Vancouver passed the Arbutus Corridor Development Plan designating the allowable use of the land along the corridor as transportation, parks and/or greenway;
- 4. Ongoing legal disputes about the value of the land and regrettable negotiating tactics have hampered progress toward the vision set out in the Arbutus Corridor Development Plan;
- 5. On March 7th, 2016, Mayor Gregor Robertson and Keith Creel, CP's President and Chief Operating Officer announced an historic agreement though which the City of Vancouver, on behalf of its residents, will purchase the Arbutus Corridor from CP;
- 6. The City of Vancouver will now begin a process to solicit public input on the design of the different elements to be included in the Greenway;
- 7. City ownership of this land provides a unique and extraordinary opportunity to create new parks along the Greenway;

Motion to Substitute the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation congratulate the City of Vancouver for reaching an agreement that allows the creation of the Arbutus Greenway;
- B. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation seek a commitment from the City of Vancouver to seize this unprecedented opportunity and commit to a bold vision of the creation of new public parks and green space along the entire (approximately) 9-kilometre Greenway, with the goal of a lasting legacy for Vancouver that will create one of the longest linear parks in North America;
- C. This commitment be made by the Vancouver City Council as a means to support the Greenest City Action Plan, and in recognition that parks and green space are fundamental to this vision and to livability; and
- D. Given the Vancouver Park Board's mandate and expertise in parks and oversight and design, that the City of Vancouver ensure that the Vancouver Park Board is an integral part of the Arbutus Greenway planning team.

CARRIED

(Commissioners Evans and Mackinnon opposed B and C)