

March 2, 2017

Ann Phelps, General Manager
Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society
s. 17(1)....

Dear Ms. Phelps,

Re: Permanent Non-motorized Boating Facility in False Creek

Thank you for your email dated February 24, 2017, regarding non-motorized facilities in False Creek. I would like to take this opportunity to respond and provide a number of clarifications and further information that may assist in on-going discussions regarding Phase 2 of the Paddling Centre.

In your email you noted that: "the Vancouver Park Board plans to use the remaining funds that were originally earmarked by City Council for a non-motorized boating facility in False Creek, for other "marine" purposes." and that "Park Board Commissioners have decided that they would rather use the remaining CAC funds for other non-specific uses." I would like to clarify that the allocation of Community Amenity Contributions (CACs) falls under the authority of City Council.

The CACs for the Paddling Centre were part of the public benefits package proposed in the Council Report for CD-1 Rezoning of 998 Expo Boulevard dated May 2, 2014 (see excerpt from page 16 below). They were approved by Council at the Public Hearing held on June 10-11, 2014.

Figure 9 - Revised (2014) Public Benefits Package

Public Benefit Offering	Details	Value
Non Market Housing Site	Applicant to transfer title to 58 West Hastings to the City	\$11,500,000
Paddling Centre or other Marine Related Improvements	Cash contribution for Phase 1 Paddling Centre replacement and improvements at Creekside Community Centre or other marine- based recreation improvements	\$4,200,000
Recreation Space Under the Cambie Street Bridge	Improvements to land beneath the Cambie Street Bridge	\$808,850
Seawall Improvements	Interim Seawall Improvements between the Plaza of Nations and Quebec Street	\$500,000
Heritage Amenity Bank Purchase	40,000 sq.ft. of heritage density at \$65 per sq.ft.	\$2,600,000
TOTAL BENEFITS		\$19,608,850

In your email, you also noted that: "These funds include a \$1,000,000 donation that was donated specifically in support of a new boathouse for dragon boat and other paddlers." The Council Report states on page 18 that "the CEO of Concord Pacific (...) committed to an additional \$1,000,000 cash contribution towards the construction of the paddling centre." This generous cash contribution was used to fund the construction of phase 1 of the Creekside Paddling Centre which was substantially completed in April 2016.

As noted on page 17 of the above mentioned Council Report, "Work on Phase 2 will proceed with the Boating Advisory Group once Parks staff complete a boating strategy for all city-owned non-motorized boating facilities". The Park Board's Non-Motorized Boating Strategy is needed to understand city-wide needs and priorities for investment in renewal and new non-motorized boating infrastructure. The strategy has been initiated and we will be undertaking consultation and working with an advisory group this year to ensure the non-motorized boating community's needs are understood and reflected in the strategy. In terms of process, the strategy will:

- inventory the current condition of city-wide non-motorized boating facilities;
- determine a future vision;
- identify gaps; and
- develop a 10-year implementation plan to achieve this vision.

The final strategy is anticipated to be considered by the Park Board in early 2018. Approval of funding for specific projects will then be brought forward to Council as part of the Budget and Capital Plan processes.

The Northeast False Creek (NEFC) Area Plan will also provide clarity and direction towards motorized and non-motorized boating in NEFC. As a member of the NEFC Stewardship Group and Park Design Advisory Group, we appreciate your work in representing this wider stakeholder group to help shape the plan and the park through regular meetings with staff and designers.

I would like to reassure you that my staff will continue to engage with the Dragon Boat Festival Society and other non-motorized boating organizations as part the NEFC planning process and the upcoming Non-Motorized Boating Strategy.

I look forward to collaborating with the Dragon Boat Festival Society to advance the interests of non-motorized boating in False Creek. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have concerns in the future.

Sincerely,



Malcolm Bromley
General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

/MB/CG

Copy to: Mayor and Council
Park Board Commissioners
PB Communications
Dave Hutch - Planning and Research
Kevin McNaney - NEFC Project Director