



Iconic Vancouver Park Water Feature Renewals

Excerpted from Minutes July 4, 2022

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MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Barker

WHEREAS:

1. Vancouver's urban parks are places where people can access nature easily and move away from the noise and complexity of the city; urban parks contribute to the sustainability of the city and environment.
2. One of the important components of urban parks are water features. Throughout history, water resources such as sea, rivers, etc. have played an important role in the establishment of many settlements and generally one of the main causes for selection of settlements. All living things need water to survive; 75% of the Earth is covered by water.
3. Water features are a prominent design component used in various forms in our iconic Vancouver parks and green spaces. Water is also used in landscape as an aesthetic element or for useful functions such as air cooling, sound buffering, irrigation, or recreational activities.
4. Recently, a number of key water features in our iconic parks, including key destination parks, have fallen into a state of disrepair and/or are non-functional. These include: Queen Elizabeth (QE) Park quarry garden waterfall and ponds; QE Park plaza fountains; Jubilee Fountain in Lost Lagoon; Stanley Park Admin Building pond; Helmcken Park fountain; Bute St pedestrian walkway fountain; Barclay Heritage Square fountain; Davis Fountain (Beach Ave at Pacific St); South Memorial Park pond; various water courses in VanDusen Botanical Gardens; Seaforth Peace Park fountain; Laurel Street Land Bridge; Jericho Beach Park pond; as well as numerous other water features in parks across Vancouver.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT staff provide an inventory of all potable water fed features across our park system along with the repairs/upgrades needed to ensure they are compliant with City of Vancouver by-laws and remain sustainable in their water use.
- B. FURTHER THAT this inventory include a timeline with cost estimates for any repairs and upgrades needed so that the Board is aware of the financial requirements to complete this work, either through the immediate use of operational funds for priority repairs, or so that more significant projects can be prioritized for future capital planning.
- C. THAT staff seek a temporary exemption to keep key water features running in destination parks, such as Queen Elizabeth Park, South Memorial Park, Stanley Park, and VanDusen Botanical Gardens, until a plan is in place to ensure they are compliant with City by-laws.



Motion to Defer

MOVED by Commissioner Demers

SECONDED by Commissioner Dumont

THAT the Park Board defer consideration of the Member's Motion until the staff briefing on potable water conservation and the impact on park water features is provided to the Board, likely in the first quarter of 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY