



MOTION ON NOTICE

For consideration at the Regular Board meeting on September 23, 2024

Preservation and Protection of the Green Space at the Corner of Gore and Union

Submitted by: Commissioner Digby

WHEREAS:

1. Since 1971 the green space on the east side of Gore Avenue between Keefer and the Union Street bikeway has been a city-owned road right-of-way, with Park Board crews receiving special funding from the city to maintain the space for the benefit of local residents;
2. The green space has been sometimes known locally as everything from “Garbage Park” to “People’s Park”;
3. In 2024, the City changed the title of this property to give management of it to the REFM department;
4. In the spring of 2024, REFM promptly proposed a rezoning of this green space to be paved and put to use as a temporary fire hall; and
5. Currently, as of September 2024, the city has reportedly postponed this action and is seeking alternate locations for a temporary fire hall in the area, which is recognized by many as an urgent need.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. The Board hereby declares its interest and intent to preserve the green space at the northeast corner of Gore/Union, initially under care and custody of the Park Board, and eventually as a permanent park.
- B. The Board directs staff to report back by Q2/2025 on costs and options for the Park Board to acquire care and custody of the green space at the corner of Gore/Union to maintain it as a public green space; and
- C. A copy of this motion shall be sent promptly to the Mayor and Council for them to arrange ways and means to give effect to this interest and intent.