
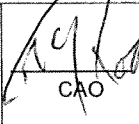


COUNCIL AGENDA/INFORMATION

Closed
 Reg. Council
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Date: _____
Date: Feb. 21, 2011
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DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER
750 – 17TH STREET, WEST VANCOUVER, BC V7V 3T3

COUNCIL REPORT

Date: February 11, 2011 File: 01.0117.20/PMP1.2011
From: Andrew Banks, Senior Manager of Parks
Corinne Ambor, Manager of Parks Planning and Community Stewardship
Subject: **Parks Master Plan Working Group Interim Report**

RECOMMENDED THAT:

1. That the report dated February 11, 2011 regarding the Parks Master Plan Working Group Interim Report be received for information.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the activities of the Parks Master Plan Working Group to date and to outline the next steps in the process.

1.0 Background

1.1 Prior Resolutions

In the May 31, 2010 meeting of Council the following resolutions were passed:

1. The report dated May 21, 2010 from the Director of Parks and Community Services titled "Draft Terms of Reference for New Parks Master Plan Working Group" be received for information;
2. The Draft Terms of Reference for the Parks Master Plan Working Group, attached as Appendix A, be approved.

1.2 History

The Parks Master Plan Working Group had its first meeting in July 2010 and began meeting biweekly in September 2010.

2.0 Policy

2.1 Policy

Council's Community Engagement Policy encourages citizen participation via Working Groups, and governs the Working Group process.

The Parks Master Plan Working Group's Terms of Reference state the following:

The purpose of the Parks Master Plan (PMP) is to create a policy document which will set clear direction for the management, protection, enhancement and community engagement of West Vancouver parks, trails and open spaces, to meet both the immediate and long term needs for the next decade.

This policy document will utilize the 'March 2006 - Parks and Open Space Background' as its foundation. The Plan should contribute to the corporate objectives in the 2010 Balanced Scorecard which balances social, economic and environmental elements of West Vancouver. The goal is to ensure multiple community benefits in an economically efficient manner.

The PMP will ensure that our parks, trails and open spaces meet current and future expectations of our community.

3.0 Balanced Scorecard

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	2010 MILESTONE	2011 MILESTONE
1.2.5 Implement sustainable land use policies	Develop for Council approval Reference for a Parks and Open Space Master Plan • Following Council approval, begin developing the Parks and Open Space Master Plan that includes policies and measures to maximize the community value of park land and open spaces • Complete Sports Field Master Plan	Complete balance of Parks and Open Space Master Plan and recommend for adoption • Develop an inventory and a map of invasive species in District parks in support of the development of an invasive species policy

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4.0 Analysis

4.1 Discussion

The Parks Master Plan Working Group is actively meeting every two weeks and has completed a number of activities which are outlined in a memo from the Working Group attached as Appendix A.

Consultation with the community is seen as integral to a successful process. Further to that, the public consultation process was launched with a "Stewardship Input Forum" hosted by the Working Group. This forum was held on January 25, 2011, at Gleneagles Clubhouse. A total of fifteen stewardship groups were contacted, with all either providing a written submission or making a presentation on January 25th – most provided both. This event was received very positively by the stewardship community.

The Working Group will come before Council again prior to the summer break with a further update on the Parks Master Plan process.

4.2 Sustainability

The Parks Master Plan will support sustainability in the management, protection and maintenance of West Vancouver parks, trails and natural areas. The Working Group has invited the Manager of Sustainability, Environment and Healthy Communities to present at a future meeting.

4.3 Consultation

The Working Group, in conjunction with third party expertise, will ensure the community is well engaged in this process and that public consultation forms a central part of the Park Master Plan work. A robust communications process will support the public consultation.

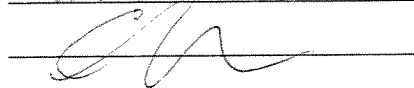
5.0 Options

5.1 This report is for information.

Author:



Concurrence
(optional)



Appendix: Appendix A, Memo to Council from Parks Master Plan Working Group

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- Completed two field trips to District Parks to observe the variety of activities undertaken in each and the different levels of maintenance required. At least three more field trips are planned.
- Met with the Director of Planning for a question and answer session on the process of park dedication and on overall planning and development in the District.
- Held a Community Input Forum for district stewardship groups on January 25, 2011 at the Gleneagles Golf Course. More than a dozen different groups attended to present their responses to four questions:
 1. *What do you like most about District of West Vancouver parks/ trails/ natural areas?*
 2. *What needs improvement?*
 3. *What would your number one priority be and how would you do it?*
 4. *What are the challenges in balancing the interests of your group with broader community desires, needs and resources?*

Feedback from the Input Forum is that it was a great opportunity for groups to listen to each other and to discover areas of common interest and concern. For the Parks Master Plan Working Group, it was a very informative session. It highlighted the wide diversity of issues to be addressed and the level of complexity underlying virtually all of them.

The Stewardship Groups also provided written submissions and those, along with notes from the Input Forum, provide the first piece of public input for the Parks Master Plan process.

What's next for the Parks Master Plan Working Group:

- Begin the Parks Master Plan work with the guidance of the third party expertise. We hope to learn from the experiences of other communities. There is a tremendous amount of information to be gathered about how other areas have addressed issues such as: the elimination and control of invasive species, dogs in parks, trail maintenance, the management of stewardship groups, the protection of threatened areas, and sustainability, to mention just a few.
- Continue with comprehensive community input by holding additional "Input Forums" with neighbourhood groups and other interested groups from all parts of the District, as well as the general public, to hear their concerns, suggestions for the PMP and the future of the parks and green spaces in their vicinity.

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To: Mayor & Council
From: Parks Master Plan Working Group
Re: **Parks Master Plan Working Group Update**

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- Complete additional field trips to District parks, trails and natural areas.
- Meet with the Manager of Sustainability, Environment, and Healthy Communities to learn more about the District's past and future plans for the foreshore and sustainability initiatives.
- Identify issues to be included in the PMP and begin the process of prioritizing them.
- Begin drafting the Parks Master Plan.

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