

(1)
2160-03-BPAR3

13.1

740 Burley Drive
West Vancouver, B.C. V7T 1Z6
August 11, 2011

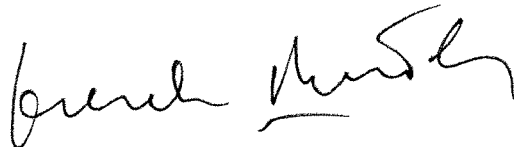
Mayor and Council
District of West Vancouver

Re proposals for changes at Burley Park.

1. I note that a meeting at the end of June to discuss with residents (which I was unfortunately unable to attend) attracted only 20 people, not exactly a neighborhood consensus; however I also note that residents of the area were being mailed with information. I live only 2 blocks from Burley Park and received no information by mail.
2. I have lived on Burley Drive for 27 years and frequently walked dogs in the park. Dog walking is the major use of this park. I have rarely seen children using the park for play. I would say there is more frequent use of the tennis court than the play equipment. A considerable disincentive for children - or anyone, for that matter - is the extreme noise level at all hours from the Upper Levels Highway.
3. The park once was well maintained. This is no longer the case. The eastern, lower end of the park adjoining 9th Street has become an environmental slum. Where once there was an exercise track with parallel bars, there is now an evil-smelling swamp, inaccessible to park users. A picnic table on the green space between the playground and the tennis court was moved about two years ago and dumped in the middle of the pathway through the lower wooded area.
4. It surprises me that the parks board wants to ban dogs from part of the park, giving even less space for their exercise. I have never seen a dog misbehaving or in any way bothering or interfering with children's use of the playground. However I'd like to point out that there is a large and well-used, dog-free playground area adjoining Ridgeview School just three blocks away.
5. I question whether the proposed development would be particularly beneficial, or the best use of tax dollars. Indeed if Council is determined to spend money on this park, a better scheme, in my view, would be to improve the lower area, not even shown on the concept map provided on the parks branch website, and noise reduction measures.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours truly,



Frank Rutter
cc Parks Department

This page intentionally left blank



This page intentionally left blank

