

Community Services Committee

Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2000

Place: W.H. Anderson Committee Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Harold Steves, Chair
Councillor Malcolm Brodie
Councillor Linda Barnes
Councillor Derek Dang

Absent: Councillor Ken Johnston

Also Present: Councillor Lyn Greenhill

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on Tuesday, January 25, 2000 be adopted.

CARRIED

The Chair advised that Item 6 - Parking Regulations on Gilbert Road between Granville Avenue and Westminster Highway, will be dealt with first on the agenda.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

2. **PARKING AND STOPPING REGULATIONS ON MULTI-LANE ARTERIAL ROADS – FOLLOW-UP REPORT ON THE PARKING RESTRICTION FOR GILBERT ROAD BETWEEN GRANVILLE AVENUE AND WESTMINSTER HIGHWAY**

(Report: Jan. 31/00; File: 6455-01; REDMS: 132985)

Gordon Chan, Manager, Transportation, reviewed the staff report. He reiterated the primary concerns, i.e. removal of parking on Gilbert Road in front of the Gateway Theatre; function of pay parking machines; removal of the loading bay in front of the theatre. He advised that the issue of the pay parking machines had been resolved. He noted that the removal of the loading bay which now provides space for only two buses would provide increased flexibility as, under

“no parking” regulations, up to four buses would be allowed to stop to load and unload.

Upon query, Mr. Chan advised that the main issues regarding enlarging the existing bay included the cost factor and a line of existing mature trees in front of the building which may be affected. He then explained the exact location of the loading bay.

DELEGATION:

Robert Turnbull, Chairman, Gateway Theatre Board

Sandy Kidd, Manager, Programs and Facilities, Gateway Theatre

Simon Johnston, Producer and General Manager, Gateway Theatre

Mr. Turnbull, stated that since the Gateway Theatre was a City facility, that they were in attendance as partners. He thanked Committee members for the improvements provided and resolution to the two issues already noted. He expressed concern, however, with the idea of a full parking ban on Gilbert Road. He alluded to financial considerations and the need to finish the year as strongly as possible. He requested that the issue of a total parking ban be postponed.

Discussion ensued on various parking options available for on site parking.

Mr. Johnston referenced a similar situation in London, Ontario and stated that the impediment of parking would act as a deterrent to theatre goers to the Gateway Theatre, many of whom are seniors.

Difficulties were noted, including the scarcity of parking spaces, close proximity to the hospital, issue of enforcement during the evenings, etc.

It was moved and seconded

That the introduction of a “24-Hour No Parking” regulation on Gilbert Road between Granville Avenue and Steveston Highway, including the Gateway Theatre road frontage be referred to staff for review of:

- a) the proposed elimination of parking on Gilbert Road in front of the Gateway Theatre and***
- b) further options which would provide relief to paid parking.***

Prior to the question being called, staff were directed to “entertain discussions regarding creative solutions” and to generate further options on how to provide relief to paid parking in the area adjacent to the Gateway Theatre.

The question on the motion was then called and it was **CARRIED**.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

3. **RCMP MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 1999**

(Report: Jan. 28/00, File No: 5375-02, REDMS132638)

Superintendent E. MacAulay reviewed the staff report. Committee members commented that they wished to continue to receive the RCMP Monthly Report in the agenda package. Supt. MacAulay noted that a revised report which would include clearance rates would be submitted in future.

In response to a query, Supt. MacAulay explained that the appearance of patrols at Silver City, Riverport seemed to have been responsible for the decrease in auto thefts at this venue.

Supt. MacAulay provided a brief summary of the practice of providing assistance at no cost to RCMP detachments in other municipalities as well as to the United States in the form of explosive search dogs. He noted that this issue will be canvassed by Assistant Commissioner, Gary Forbes, in the review of regionalization of support services to see if there was a better way to serve the entire area. He clarified that, in the event of an incident, the RCMP were able to control access and egress to the airport.

It was advised that information regarding the Youth Diversion Program would be presented to Council in the form of the Annual Report from the Richmond Family Court Committee in the near future

It was moved and seconded

That the RCMP Monthly Report for the month of December, 1999 be received for information.

CARRIED

4. **FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT, QUARTERLY REPORT
OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1999**

(Report: Jan. 24/00, File No: 5375-03, REDMS 134210, 113771)

Rick Papp, Acting Fire Chief, reviewed the staff report. He advised that there were 24 positions approved for retirement over the next year. He stated that several new people were currently in training and that the bulk of those leaving would occur in October and December. He clarified that there would be one new Fire Inspector position filled.

It was moved and seconded

That the Fire-Rescue Department, Quarterly Report for October - December 1999 be received for information
CARRIED

5. **RICHMOND TENNIS CLUB AGREEMENT**

(Report: Jan. 28/00, File No: 1000-01-018, REDMS: 132271)

Gord Barstow, Manager, Parks, reviewed the staff report. He explained that although original discussions included consideration of a five-year agreement, it

was felt that two further years were necessary to allow the organization to raise funds and to prepare a grant application.

It was moved and seconded

That staff be directed to amend the current agreement between the Richmond Tennis Club and the City of Richmond by a further two years (as outlined in the report dated January 28, 2000 from the Director, Parks).

CARRIED

6. **STRATEGIES FOR REGIONAL ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN GREATER VANCOUVER**

(Report: Jan. 24/00, File No: 7000-01; REDMS 131716)

Jane Fernyhough, Manager, Cultural Services, provided an update for Committee members. She advised that Phase I of the project had included a review of strategies while Phase II, based on the November 1999 report from the GVRD, recommended going into an implementation phase. The GVRD Board has authorized \$100,000 to fund business plans with a June completion date but it was noted that this time period may be extended. Ms. Fernyhough clarified that the Plan would include the hiring of consultants and the convening of large stakeholder meetings.

It was moved and seconded

That Council endorse the report entitled "Strategies for Regional Arts and Cultural Development in Greater Vancouver" from the Regional Cultural Plan Steering Committee, and support the preparation of the business planning and implementation options phase.

CARRIED

7. **GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE**

(a) City-Owned 20 Acres, Riverport Site – Verbal Update

Gordon Barstow, Manager, Parks, advised that a draft report on the City-owned site at Riverport has been completed and that this will be submitted to the Sports Advisory Committee for discussion. He referred to the changing demographics of sports groups, and the need to address issues involving more adult requirements, as fewer children were being registered in sports. Reference was made to the interest in the use of artificial fields within the Lower Mainland. The final report will be presented at an upcoming General Purposes Meeting.

(b) Vicious Dogs Bylaw – Verbal Update

This item will be reviewed at a future General Purposes Meeting.

(c) GVRD Open House – Verbal Update

Yvonne Stich, Park Planner, advised that the GVRD will hold an Open House, February 16, 2000 at the Vancouver Public Library to enable the municipalities and agencies to promote their trail systems. Posters showing the Richmond Trail System were presented and it was advised

that these could also be placed on display boards or banners and utilized throughout other venues within the City. It was noted that the Greenways Plan was based on existing trail systems. Ms. Stich advised that studies were currently being undertaken regarding the use of a series of aqua buses to connect regional parks.

Reference was made to the Open House to be held on February 24, 2000 at the Cultural Centre in Richmond for the purpose of presenting a draft of the Regional Greenways Plan and to garner public input.

(d) Steveston Open House – Memo.

Gord Barstow, Manager, Parks, advised that there will be an Open House held on March 2, 2000 from 7:00-9:00 p.m., presented by the Steveston Society Park Committee. Display boards and photographs will be presented and discussion will follow on issues to include: assets, goals, design responses to goals, priorities for development, site plan principles and guidelines. In addition, a questionnaire will be distributed, and a report will be submitted at a future date.

(e) Proposed Steveston Tramway System

Mr. Barstow presented background information on the proposed tramway system. Staff will be meeting with the Steveston Tramway Society as well as the Aquatic Board to review this issue. The need for formulating a business case analysis or plan for this project was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

- 5 It was moved and seconded
That the meeting be adjourned (5:10 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Tuesday, February 15, 2000.

Councillor Harold Steves
Chair

Susan Kopeschny
Administrative Assistant