



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee
From: Dave Semple
Director of Parks Operations
Re: Tall Ships 2008 Referral

Date: March 14, 2006
File: 11-7400-20-TALL1/2006-Vol 01

Staff Recommendation

1. That Council not support a bid to host the 2008 Tall Ship Challenge; and
2. That Council support an enhanced summer Maritime Festival experience as outlined in the report; and
3. That \$20,000 be set aside from Council Contingency Fund to support bringing two large ships to Richmond in the summer of 2006 if required.

Dave Semple
Director of Parks Operations
(3350)

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY					
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
Budgets	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>				
Recreation & Cultural Services	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>				
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At the January 12, 2004 Regular Council Meeting resolution No. R04/1-7 staff received the following referral:

That the question of the viability of the 2008 Tall Ships Challenge event be referred to staff for an interim report to Committee.

Prior to the question being called, staff were requested to include in their report, the cost of dredging the harbour, and information on who would facilitate the 2008 event.

The purpose of this report is in response to this referral.

Analysis

As a result of the referral, Staff have examined two options for consideration:

Option 1 – Facilitate the 2008 Tall Ships Challenge (Not recommended)

While the 2002 Tall Ships Challenge was an extremely well-attended and exciting event for Richmond to host, the enormous planning effort required to facilitate this event again in 2008 along with the financial support required suggests that this would not be a viable project for the City to undertake at this time, especially with the large corporate projects that are being facilitated through 2010.

Option 2 – Develop an enhanced Maritime Festival Experience (Recommended)

Following the success of the 2002 Tall Ships Challenge, Council approved one time funding for a Richmond Maritime Festival. The Maritime Festival is intended to promote the maritime activities in the City of Richmond and to raise awareness of our historic connections to the water. The first festival in August 2004 attracted 6 vessels to the docks at Britannia and approximately 6,000 visitors (in spite of a 40 year record rainfall on Saturday). In addition, in 2004 the City hosted the Kaiwo Maru and the Concordia to much public support and enjoyment. The 2005 Festival attracted 10 vessels and approximately 7,500 visitors, and it is hoped that we can attract two larger sailing vessels each year.

Currently, Britannia Heritage Shipyard Society, working in a partnership with the Steveston Rotary Club and the Steveston Harbour Authority, are excited about the prospect of building on the annual Maritime Festival to create a signature Maritime Experience. This experience could include the hosting of one or two of the Tall Ships in Steveston each year. Staff are currently in discussions with the SV Concordia, which is returning to the Pacific coast this year, the Maritime Museum of British Columbia's Trekka, a 19 foot yawl that has twice circumnavigated the globe, and the HMCS Oriole.

To assist in securing two large vessels for appearance in the summer of 2006, Staff are asking for \$20,000 additional funding. This money would only be used for securing the vessels and would be carried over for the same use in 2007 if not required in 2006.

Dredging

As part of the referral Staff were requested to provide the cost of dredging the harbour. It is the responsibility of the Steveston Harbour Authority to provide dredging in the harbour. However, the area that Staff would recommend dredging is *only* the area in front of the existing 200 foot long wood float as detailed in **Attachment 1**. Dredging around the existing buildings may cause instability to the existing piles and wharves and is not recommended.

Cost breakdown:

Survey depth sounding	\$ 5,000.00
Chemical soil analysis	\$ 10,000.00
Application fees	\$ 2,500.00
Design drawings	\$ 2,500.00
Dredging operations & ocean disposal	\$ 20,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 40,000.00
Plus 20% Contingency	<u>\$ 8,000.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 48,000.00</u>

Although the dredging will definitely have to be done at some point, Staff recommends waiting until we need to dredge either McDonald Beach or Scotch Pond again, and/or combine the dredging with the Steveston Harbour Authority project in 2007, to offset some of the administrative costs, (i.e.. design, application, disposal fees), since it is not cost efficient to go through such a lengthy and complicated process just to dredge 1,000 cubic metres of material.

Financial Impact

Currently, the Maritime Festival is operating on approximately \$7,000 combined City and sponsorship funds and in addition has recently received \$5,000 title sponsorship from the Fraser River Port Authority.

There is also an opportunity to apply for grants and additional funding dependent upon an annual report on each year’s event and recommendations for the next year’s event. The expectation is that corporate sponsors would be encouraged to fill in the gap in funding.

In order to cover the costs of inviting one or two tall ships to Steveston in 2006 it is recommended that Council set aside \$20,000 from Council Contingency to cover the hosting costs.

Conclusion

Staff believes an enhanced annual Maritime Event in Steveston would be an exciting and sustainable project, and that Staff should work with existing partners to develop this proposal as opposed to supporting a 2008 Tall Ship Challenge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a horizontal line, positioned above the printed name.

Dave Semple
Director of Parks Operations
(3350)

DCS:bc