



Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee

Date: Tuesday, September 23rd, 2003

Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Harold Steves, Chair
Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt, Vice-Chair
Councillor Linda Barnes
Councillor Derek Dang
Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Bill McNulty
Mayor Malcolm Brodie

Also Present: Councillor Rob Howard

Call to Order: 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 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee held on Tuesday, August 26th, 2003, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

At this point the Chair indicated that an additional item, 'The Steveston Project', would be added to the agenda as Item 5.

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PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

2. 'RAISE THE ROOF PROGRAM' PRESENTATION – MULTI-MEDIA FORMAT

The Coordinator Youth Services, Wayne Yee, presented the 'Raise the Roof' program, a free drop-in program led by the City's outreach workers, that had been taken into seven assisted-rental housing complexes during the past summer.

In response to questions Mr. Yee provided the following information:

- the free loot bags that were distributed contained resource information provided by ICBC, The Boys and Girls Club, and the City in addition to an invitation to the event;
- the assisted-rental housing complexes, each of which contained a minimum of 40 units, were located throughout the City; and
- the success of the program had resulted in a possible implementation of free park summer programs utilizing a similar service delivery model.

It was moved and seconded

That the oral report and presentation be received for information.

CARRIED

3. OPTIONS TO PROTECT TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

(Report: September 18/03, File No.: 6550-04) (REDMS No. 1065337)

The Director of Parks, Dave Semple, the Manager, Policy Planning, Terry Crowe, and Jenny Beran, Planner, were present.

In response to questions, information was provided that:

- approximately 600 trees are planted each year by the City in addition to the approximate 400 trees planted through development;
- the cost to the City of maintaining a tree was \$20. per year; the cost of a 7 – 8" calliper boulevard tree at planting was \$200. - \$300; the 4-year cost of a tree grown at the City nursery was \$75.;
- the Pacific Crabapple and Shorepine, two tree species indigenous to the City, continue to be planted in natural settings;
- the Development Permit process required by multi-family development (but not single-family development) included the provision of a tree survey and arborist report on existing trees in addition to the inclusion of new trees to be planted on the landscape plan;

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- a tree survey and arborist report would cost approximately \$1,000.;
- approximately 30% of existing trees are retained during development of multi-family sites, however, most single-family lots being developed are clear cut;
- a Bonded Tree Plan would be required should the City require that frontage trees be retained during development;
- it was suggested that hedges over 6 ft. in height be included on a landscape plan;
- a bylaw would not aid in the determination of ownership of trees located on a lot line;
- the City encouraged that live plant material cover a minimum 20% of a lot but that this did not prevent future paving;
- a change in grade and/or a change to the level of the water table during construction could be devastating to existing trees;

Ms. Erika Simm, 4991 Westminster Highway, who supported Option 3B of the report, read a written submission which is attached as Schedule 1 and forms a part of these minutes.

Ms. V. Gwillim, 5891 Easterbrook Road, read a written submission that is attached as Schedule 2 and forms a part of these minutes, and circulated a number of photographs of her property. In addition, Ms. Gwillim submitted a petition on behalf of residents in favour of a tree bylaw, a copy of which is attached as Schedule 3 and forms a part of these minutes.

Ms. E. Feller, a member of the Advisory Committee on the Environment but speaking as a private citizen, said that a look at Shady Island would provide an example of the evolution of process and the potential of this area to produce magnificent natural trees. Ms. Feller also spoke about the need to replace natural habitat where possible. Ms. Feller felt that the City should aim for a no net loss of tree policy that included bonding or fines if necessary.

Ms. B. Baanders, 7520 Bridge Street, cited her concerns relating to the possible development of a property adjacent to her property that could include the potential loss of a several significant trees. Ms. Baanders was in favour of a Bonded Tree Plan that would provided incentive for the retention of trees.

Ms. M. Louth read a written submission provided by Mr. D. Louth, a copy of which is attached as Schedule 4 and forms a part of these minutes.

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Mr. G. Kibble, 11171 – 4th Avenue, a member of the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE), indicated that ACE had discussed the issue at a preliminary level but could do so in more extensive terms. In addition, speaking as a resident, Mr. Kibble said that a mechanism that would prevent removal of significant trees should be in place.

Ms. B. Philips, 7460 Moffatt Road, submitted a petition from residents in favour of the implementation of a bylaw to prevent the destruction of trees on private property, a copy of which is attached as Schedule 5 and forms a part of these minutes. In addition, Ms. Philips spoke about the recent clear cutting, with the exception of one tree, of the property adjacent to her complex.

It was moved and seconded

That Option 3B of the report dated September 18th, 2003 from the Director of Parks, be endorsed.

DEFEATED

Opposed: Mayor Brodie
Cllr. Barnes
Cllr. Dang
Cllr. McNulty

It was moved and seconded

That the report, dated September 18th, 2003 from the Director of Parks and the Manager, Policy Planning, be referred to:

- (a) the Advisory Committee on the Environment for:
 - i) a review of the options contained in the report with a view to a City-wide policy of 'no net loss of trees'; and*
 - ii) the suggestion of educational options.**
- (b) the Urban Development Institute, the Greater Vancouver Home Builders Association and City staff for their comment.*

Prior to the question being called Councillor Howard left the meeting – 6:15 p.m.

The question was then called and it was **CARRIED**.

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4. **AWARD OF CONTRACT T.1557 – CAMBIE BRANCH LIBRARY
TENANT IMPROVEMENTS**

(Report: September 18/03, File No.: 1000-20.T.1557) (REDMS No. 1067000)

The Chief Librarian, Greg Buss, was present.

It was moved and seconded

That the report (dated September 18th, 2003 from the Chief Librarian) recommending award of Contract T.1557 – Cambie Branch Library Tenant Improvements for the new branch library in the leased premises at Unit 150, 11590 Cambie Road to the lowest bidder, Parkwood Construction Ltd., be approved.

CARRIED

5. **THE STEVESTON PROJECT**

(Report: September 19/03, File No.: 2000-20-005) (REDMS No. 1067876)

The Director of Parks, Dave Semple, was present.

It was moved and seconded

That:

- (1) “The Steveston Project” as outlined in the report (dated September 19, 2003 from the Director Parks) be endorsed in principle;*
- (2) a letter of support for “The Steveston Project” from Council be written for fund raising purposes; and*
- (3) staff report back with siting and contribution plans for Council to consider at the appropriate time.*

CARRIED

6. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

There were no reports.

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ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (6:20 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Tuesday, September 23rd, 2003.

Councillor Harold Steves
Chair

Deborah MacLennan
Administrative Assistant

Mr Chair,

From the five options staff explored for protecting trees on private property I would like to put my support behind option 3 B.

This option would require a Tree Plan to protect significant trees as part of - and tied to - all existing City approvals for :

Rezoning, Subdivisions, Development Permits, Building Permits and especially Demolition Permits.

This requirement should be applied to **all** land use applications: i.e. building a new building under existing zoning, subdivide one lot into two lots to build two homes, and lot consolidation with other lots for multiple dwellings development.

Requirements for protecting trees on private property will have to be only applied to some of the land use applications that are being processed in City Departments, as tree protection may not be necessary in all cases.

(What is the projected percentage ?)

I believe the one time set-up cost of \$ 20,000 is a reasonable investment, and the ongoing cost estimate of \$ 60,000 for staff time on a part time basis, as well as an expert field person, is an equally reasonable investment for the increased protection of trees.

The City's Corporate Vision is to be the most appealing, liveable and well managed City in Canada. Richmond is also known as the " Garden City. " Trees are a major component of this vision.

Erika Simm
4991 Westminster Hwy.
Richmond, B.C.

Tel: 604-273-3282
Fax: 604-273-3240

V. Gilliam
5891 Easterbrook Rd.
Richmond, B.C.

I lived in Richmond 55 yrs.
& at my present address 36 yrs.

on S. side of my property is a row of cedar trees
over the years 4 families have lived in
there without any problems at all. They all
respected my property like I did theirs.

Since the last family moved in they have
trespassed on ~~the~~ my property damaging my tree
to destruction, pulled down my picket
fence & recently pouring "Roundup" on the cedar tree
killed everything on that side as well as
killing the cedar in my front garden.

Richmond must have a Tree (Private) Bylaw.

Harminder Grewal
4811 Webster Rd.
Richmond, B.C.

SCHEDULE 3 TO THE MINUTES OF
THE PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2003.

SEPT. 22; 2003

TO: THE CITY OF RICHMOND

WE THE UNDERSIGNED REQUEST THAT THE CITY OF RICHMOND PASS
A "SAVE (PRIVATE) TREE BY-LAW TO PREVENT FURTHER
DESTRUCTION TO THE TREES IN OUR AREA.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Lynn & Dorothy Beard	5860 Reeves Rd RICHMOND B.C.
A. Macdonald	5851 REEVES RD RICHMOND, B.C.
NORAH & RALPH MACE	5780 REEVES ROAD RICHMOND. B.C.
HOWARD SMYTHE	5711 RIVERDALE DR.
Deek J. Bennett	5751 Easterbrook Rd. Richmond,
Flaine & Wesley Gale	4951 Tilton Road, Richmond, B.C.
JORDAN LEITH JK	5777 McCallan Rd, RICHMOND BC.
Rosemary Koehler	5911 MCCALLAN RD. RICHMOND
Martha Proucher	4960 Webster Rd. Richmond B.C.
Elias Soursor AK	4931 Webster Rd Richmond B.C.
Don No	4900 WEBSTER RD
John & Rosemary McPherson	4820 Webster Rd. Richmond B.C.
KLAZINA ALBLAS	5091 RIVERDALE DR.
FLOYD SULLY	5780 Riverdale Dr. Richmond BC
J. Nyck	5760 RIVERDALE DR.
Violet Smuthe	5711 Riverdale Dr Richmond BC

NAME

ADDRESS

Julia Chen 5880 Easterbrook Rd. Richmond.
- Ken Chen 5880 EASTERBROOK RD Richmond
- Gino Kesh 5871 Easterbrook rd Rmd
- Tito Tito 5951 McCALLAN RD. RICHMOND
- Brent 5951 McCALLAN RD. RICHMOND.
Erika Simon 4991 Westminster Hwy.
- [unclear] 5931 McCALLAN Rd. RICHMOND
- [unclear] 5891 Muochisan Rd Rmd
- G. Blayden 4760 TILTON RD
J. Russell 4771 Tilton Rd. Rmd
W. Preget. 5811 Easterbrook Rd. Richmond B.C.
Doreen Rose Hornick 5800 Easterbrook Rd. Rich
- Eric B. Hornick 5800 Easterbrook Rd, Richmond
V. Guillim 5891 Easterbrook Rd Richmond
B. Baanders 7520 Bridge St Richmond
M. Laub 4140 SAUCY RICHMOND

**SCHEDULE 4 TO THE MINUTES OF
THE PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2003.**

Doug Loun
4140 Dallyn Road
Richmond B C
V6X 2S7
(604) 270-3317
September 23, 2003

Harold Steves
Chairperson - Parks, recreation & cultural services committee

Re: A new by-law for protecting trees on residential/commercial/industrial and city property

It has come to my attention through the city web site; your committee will be discussing several proposals submitted by staff on the protection of trees. I will not be able to attend this meeting scheduled for Tuesday September 23/03 at 4pm. Since I will be out of town during the week, I have prepared this letter of support.

I have been a resident of Richmond living in the Cambie area for 26 years. During those years, I have seen many changes in our area. Some of those changes have been first class while others are dreadful. This report, which is before your committee tonight, is a step in the right direction. The obliteration of trees on residential properties for larger homes is appalling. No one who lives in our country wants to stop anyone from building his or her dream home. We live in a free society but there are times when local governments need to make laws to protect the environment and residents in our communities. I live in an area where single family is the required zoning. Nevertheless, in the last few years, my area has seen older homes demolished to make way for larger ones. While I recognized new owners want to build larger homes to accommodate their families, I question whether this is happening. Sometimes there are so many cars in front of their houses; I begin to wonder if they all belong to one family. I would guess a check of the license plates would tell us who lives there. However, this is not the issue before you tonight.

I am appearing before your committee to support your deliberations on new types of regulations, for the preservation of trees on residential, commercial, industrial and city properties. If you expect citizens and developers of Richmond to get on board, then you will have to set an example, by implementing new laws and cost for putting into force this most important piece of regulation.

Presently when developers come before you to build new structure or upgrade existing commercial or industrial sites, they will have to submit plans for landscaping. Why do you force developers to install new trees on their properties and not residential owners? Can you imagine developers applying to the city for rezoning and having no plans for trees or shrubs? I believe you have a duty to make new laws, which will curtail removal of all trees on residential properties before any demolition permit is required. In addition, homeowners should be required to apply for a permit to remove any trees on their own properties. I expect homeowners for legitimate reasons to apply for a permit to have certain trees removed. If this happens, then it should be compulsory for owners to replace the tree with a new one. Here is where you will be required to supervise the new tree and its health over the next several years. You will have to be very diligent in drafting a new by-law. Let us face it; people will try to circumvent the by-law by looking for loopholes.

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I had to do a little research, just to be clear in my mind why we needed to protect our trees. While I did know some of the following points, my research turned out to be very interesting when I learned of other reasons for protecting trees.

WHY WE NEED TO SAVE OUR TREES

These are in priorities and benefits I place on having beautiful trees within our neighborhood and city.

1. Trees clean our air by reducing and filtering pollutants: Large trees remove carbon dioxide gas then release back into the atmosphere so there is enough oxygen for us human and animals to breathe.
2. Trees provide vital food and shelter for birds and other small mammals.
3. Trees provide shade from the sun's burning rays. We all know as the earth protective ozone layers becomes depleted, our grandchildren may have to spend their entire lives indoor and could never venture outdoors to breath the fresh air.
4. Trees can reduce runoff by intercepting major rainfalls. In addition, the root systems act as filters by trapping pollutants.
5. Trees increase our property values.
6. Trees beautify our homes, neighbourhoods and city and improve our quality of life.
7. Trees provide fruits, nuts and flowers for our enjoyment. Even some drugs come from trees.
8. Trees help remove smog from our cities.

If you believe in God, than you know, he made trees for obvious reasons. If you do not believe in God, than you should review the scientific research which will prove trees are a valuable resource.

I believe many others have expressed the same view in letters to the editors of both community newspapers from May to June 2003. Even The Richmond News editorial dated March 12/03 would like to see council adopt a plan of action.

The time has come for the Mayor and councillors to get behind this very important issue. I am very troubled this topic is somewhat of a political dilemma within council and staff. I know you cannot please everyone but I believe there are more residents who want our leaders to take the tiger by the tail and bring a new tree bylaw into fruition. As you are well aware the City of Vancouver, Surrey and West Vancouver have adopted tree bylaws without repercussions. I know of other cities within North America who have also passed by-laws to protect their trees.

This committee has an excellent opportunity to take a leadership role by adopting the tree report and then forwarding it on to council for further debate. Please do not make a decision to squash this report because of economic reasons. At a recent planning committee meeting, I listen to councillors' debate why we need to keep Wal-Mart from leaving Richmond. If you are willing to accommodate them because the city is open for business, then you should be able to find a method to accommodate the citizens, who want to preserve trees. Are the citizen's not as significant as Wal-Mart? This issue has been around far too many years on council, and purging this report at committee stage for just economic reasons will be ludicrous. If your decision is to eradicate this report, then it will become very unhealthy for all citizens of Richmond.

I have just been faxed a copy of "The Options to Protect Trees On Private Property."

On page two Background #1. - Legal Authority sections 708-715 of the local government act provide council with very wide powers to manage trees on private property. This is the first and the most important step you need to take. If you draft a new by-law preventing removal of any trees on all properties then you can established a new city fee to re-capture some of the city cost. There might be a lost to tax payers in the first couple of years, but once you get an idea on the average cost you should be able to break even or sustain a small loss. All worthwhile and a price we must all pay for the preservation of our trees.

On page three Analysis # 4. – City Corporate Vision is to be the most appealing, livable and well managed City in Canada. Trees are a component of this vision. I think we all need to do are part to maintain our city corporate vision. Educating citizens of our new by-law and cost and then asking residents to keep an eye on those who want to break the law. If staff and your legal department draft a new law, conforming to the Local Government Act section 708 to 715 then there is no reason in the world for city lawyers not to successfully prosecute violators.

Please, please do not get caught up in the cost. The citizens elect you to a three-year term to act on their behalf, which includes fiscal responsibilities and many other issues. Tree preservation is just one of those issues you must undertake. The time has come to bring a new by-law into force. Voluntary does not work in Richmond.

I am sorry I could not be here for the committee's report, but I realize I have to express my feeling on this most important issue.

In closing, I would like to remind all committee members here tonight, the city sign coming north out of Deas Island tunnel welcoming tourist to our city reads;

Island city by nature

If we continue into the future to chain saw all of our big beautiful trees, then we will have to change the sign to read...

Island city by nature but no trees

Copies to:

Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt (Vice Chair)
Councillor Linda Barnes
Councillor Derek Dang
Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Bill McNutly

Requiem for an Air Maker

Cut, rip, slash, stab, tear,
Electric lacerates the sky.
Rain-tears stream out of heaven.
As an ancient oak tree dies.

Branches wide, roots run deep,
From acorn to a tree.
Tall and full, already grown,
When Columbus took to sea.

Six hundred generations: robin, jay,
The oak a home would be.
Six hundred generations, squirrel and deer
On a million acorns feed.

By chance, survived the woodmans ax,
Survived the farmers plow.
From woods to farm, from farm to town.
The oak survived some how.

Pollution, smog, and acid rain.
Mankind's insults withstood.
Then perished in mere seconds,
To nature's violent mood.

A tree destroyed my nature,
With her rain-tear drops she grieves.
She kills one we kill a million,
To satisfy our greed.

Man cuts down the grand air makers,
Who produce the air we breath.
How foolish mankind must appear.
Even to the trees.

P E T I T I O N

FROM: The residents
7460 Moffatt Road, Richmond, B.C.

TO: The City of Richmond
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

SUBJECT: The implementation of a By Law to prevent the
destruction of Trees on private property in
Richmond.

DATE: September 23, 2003

PETITION

We, the undersigned, residents _____ at
 7460 Moffatt Road, Richmond, B.C. petition the City of Richmond to
 implement a By Law to provide for the retention, replacement and
 maintenance of trees on private property in the City of Richmond

NAME	UNIT	NAME	UNIT
Don	Unit 213	Tatyana Kravchuk	#20
Jong Chan	#213	Alex Shtyrin	#20
Mary Ann Robb Gardiner	#7	Lise Pogossian	#15
Susan Wang	#105	Marty Wilson	#106
Boris Kropivnitsky	#16	Melissa	#1
Zula Kropivnitsky	#16	Sarina Pappa	#21
ANDREA LAUSONI	#18.	Elena Pappa	#21
Straimish	#22	Natasha Mikheeva	#2
Straimish	#22	Roman Mikheev	#2
Straimish	#16	Gandy DeMeo	#112
Straimish	#12	MELISSA ESPERITTO	#17
A. MOISSEEV	#5	Greg Cooper	#101
D. G. S. S. S.	#6	Julien Cimin	#9
R. Hilborn	#309	Bob Kleiman	#203
L. Buhr	#312	Oleh Vytkov	#23
Taj Khan	103	Natalia Vytkova	#23
Straimish	#213	G. M. Duggan	#301
Melissa Espiritto	#17	M.A. SPANLOW	#304

PETITION

We, the undersigned, residents at
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 implement a By Law to provide for the retention, replacement and
 maintenance of trees on private property in the City of Richmond

NAME	UNIT	NAME	UNIT
JEFF MOSTAT	206	Blouman	*302
All Jeff		Blouman	202
KELLY MOSTAT	206	S. Amosley	210
Pamela Ingram	313	B.orgett Humphreys	201
Peter Ingram	313	B.orgett Humphreys	201
R. Howardson	104	Deborah Phillips	207
Ahveki	205	L. Ann Macleod	113
John	19	John	108
Joan Yu	24.	John	4
W. Munn	209	C. Rutkowski	208
E. Woodwell	#3	J. Rutkowski	208
D. WADWAL	#3	W. Woodwell	208
J. Poirier	# 310	G. Mullar	109
J. Phaneuf	302	M. Rosen	110
Renee Phaneuf	305	H. McLeod	107
F. Ch	#9	M. Carter	307
J. D. D. D.	#10	K. Phaneuf	#308
Murphy	#303	H. Barclay	102

Julie Sealey TH #13