



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** General Purposes Committee  
**From:** Dave Semple  
General Manager, Parks and Recreation  
**Re:** Parks Capital Projects - Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway Update

**Date:** July 5, 2010  
**File:** 06-2400-20-MARM1-  
01/Vol 01

### Staff Recommendation

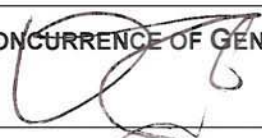
That the attached report, Parks Capital Projects – Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway Update, be received for information.



Dave Semple  
General Manager, Parks and Recreation  
(604-233-3350)



for  
Andrew Nazareth  
General Manager, Business &  
Financial Services  
(604-276-4095)

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<b>ROUTED TO:</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>	
Engineering	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>REVIEWED BY TAG</b>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>REVIEWED BY CAO</b>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

## Staff Report

### Origin

The Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway is a Parks Capital Project which was approved by Council in the 2007 and 2008 capital programs with an original total budget of \$1,790,000 funded by Parks Development DCCs and a 1% assist factor from the City's revolving fund. As well, \$1,787,697 was approved for the project in the 2004 – 2006 capital programs through the Waterfront Improvement Fund in relation to the Council-approved Middle Arm Open Space concept. The timing of the project funding was initially identified in relation to creating a welcoming environment for Olympic Oval spectators arriving to Richmond on the Canada Line at Aberdeen Station as well as helping to create the O Zone site - originally scheduled to be held in this location.

Since planning for the Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway began in 2007, a number of grants have been received for this project from other levels of government and the scope of work has increased correspondingly. The purpose of this report is to update Council on the project, inform Council of the various internal and external funding sources, and to identify funds to be transferred to the Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway project in order to meet the new Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) standards for Tangible Capital Assets.

This report responds to Council's term goal, *"Ensure the City has the capacity to meet the financial challenges of today and in the future, while maintaining appropriate levels of service through improved working relationships with the Province by becoming aware of and taking better advantage of emerging funding opportunities and programs and through the establishment of new sources of revenue."*

### Analysis

The Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway is on Richmond's downtown waterfront, a short distance from No. 3 Rd. and the Canada Line and connects City Centre to the Richmond Olympic Oval. The majority of the work was completed prior to the start of the 2010 Winter Games and provided a successful showcase for Richmond's new urban waterfront. Over 10,000 people walked the accessible, paved Greenway during the two-week Olympic Games period and experienced an introduction to Richmond's new urban riverfront landscape.

As the attached photos show, the Greenway is an innovative, urban pedestrian link that includes a variety of gathering and festival spaces oriented to activities on the river. It is a 1.3 km long urban trail with places for people to sit and enjoy the river, where special events and celebrations can take place including rowing competitions and dragon boat regattas. The Greenway also features three fully-accessible play elements which allow families of all ages and abilities to 'play along the way' to the Oval.

The Greenway is designed to assist the City in responding to Climate Change. It is built on a newly raised section of the City's dyke system where flood protection and public amenity are fully integrated into a unique and artistic form including a public plaza built over the Cambie Rd. pump station.



Major Greenway amenities include the following:

- a dyke elevation of 4.0m to meet new flood protection standards and help the City respond to climate change.
- a 1.3 km. hard surface, universally accessible pedestrian promenade.
- Cambie Plaza featuring public art, a prominent cantilevered structure overlooking the river, and the pump station control building with green roof.
- the Amphitheatre that can seat 200 people and be used for many smaller gatherings such as ceremonies held by the Navy League as part of their programs.
- Boater's Row Plaza (near the UBC Boathouse), a 700 sq. m. hard surface area to be used for staging rowing events and special events.
- the River Seating area with stepped seating on the face of the dyke for viewing of boat races and other activities on the river.
- innovative, universally accessible play areas for children of all abilities.

The remainder of the work on the Greenway will be completed by September 2010 and will include a floodwall in front of the Navy League and Yacht Club buildings. The Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway has acted as a catalyst in the area and additional improvements will be made to the Greenway between the Dinsmore Bridge and the Oval and on the west side of the Oval to be phased in with the River Green developments.

The table below identifies the internal funding sources and external grants that make up the total project funding.

**Table 1: Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway Funding:**

Source	Amount	Description
Local Motion Grant	\$550,000	Trail development, universal access and amenities related to the trail
Legacies Now Grant (Act Now BC, Ronald McDonald House Charities, Rick Hansen Man in Motion Foundation)	\$400,000	Planning, design and construction of three accessible play elements
Emergency Management BC Grant	\$1,591,896	Dyke upgrades from the Dinsmore Bridge to 755m to the east towards Cambie Road.
VANOC Grant	\$33,400	Lighting and paving
Recreation Infrastructure Canada Grant	\$1,000,000	Trail improvements, amenities, spectator facilities, non-motorized boat water access point
<b>Sub total external grants</b>	<b>\$3,575,296</b>	<b>44%</b>
Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway Project	\$1,790,000	Parks DCC's
2007 Council endorsed Middle Arm Open Space Master Plan Concept	\$1,787,697	2004, 2005 and 2006 Waterfront Improvement projects
Middle Arm Trail Project*	\$50,000	Middle Arm Trail Improvements
Waterfront Improvement Projects 2007 & 2008*	\$24,632	Oval area dyke improvements and Middle Arm Waterfront lighting
Trails Projects - 2008 & 2009*	\$314,387	City-wide trail construction as

		defined in the 2003 council-approved Trails Master Plan
Parks Advanced Design projects - 2007, 2008 & 2009*	\$371,489	Consulting and design fees
Raising of North & South Dyke Project *	\$300,000	Raising of the North Dyke
<b>Sub total internal City funding</b>	<b>\$4,638,205</b>	<b>56%</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING</b>	<b>\$8,213,501</b>	<b>100%</b>

*\*These budget amounts will be transferred to the Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway Project in order to meet the PSAB requirements for tangible capital assets.*

### Financial Impact

There is no new funding required to complete this project. Financial changes to this project by adjusting the recording of parks capital projects into the Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway Project will be included in an update to the City's five year capital plan scheduled to be considered by Council this fall.

### Conclusion

The Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway is an important legacy amenity for the City. It combines both recreational and public safety features and introduces to the City to a new concept of our urban waterfront. The project scope and budget has changed due to funding availability from external and internal sources with the end result being almost half of the total project cost being funded through sources external to the City.



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SL:sl





River Seating



Greenway view to east from UBC Boathouse



New benches and plantings



View of Amphitheatre and Sound Garden

Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway 2010





Amphitheatre and new plantings



View east towards Cambie Plaza



Cambie Plaza

Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway 2010