

Schedule 25 to the Minutes of the Public Hearing meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, January 17, 2022.

MayorandCouncillors

From: MayorandCouncillors
Sent: January 17, 2022 10:50 AM
To: 'Jim Wright'
Subject: RE: Talisman (Item 2) in Jan 17 public hearing

Categories: - TO: MAYOR & EACH COUNCILLOR / FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Good Morning,

Thank you for your email and letter. Please note that copies will be provided to Council in advance of the Jan 17, 2022 Public Hearing. In addition, your comments will be received by Wayne Craig, Director, Development.

Sincerely,

Claudia

Claudia Jesson
Director, City Clerk's Office
City of Richmond, 6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1
Phone: 604-276-4006 | Email: cjesson@richmond.ca

From: Jim Wright <jamesw8300@shaw.ca>
Sent: January 17, 2022 10:19 AM
To: MayorandCouncillors <MayorandCouncillors@richmond.ca>
Subject: Talisman (Item 2) in Jan 17 public hearing

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Good morning, Mayor and Councillors,

Before this evening's public hearing, please consider my attached one-page PDF memo re continuing your good work with the Talisman development, especially the the Talisman forest parkland.

With best wishes,
Jim Wright

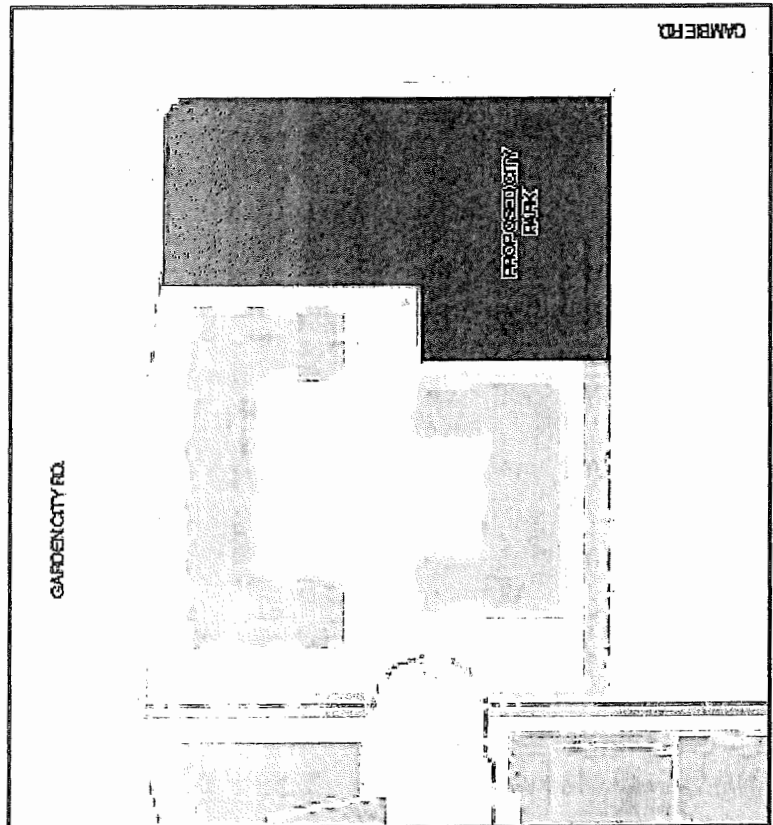
P.S. A timely post has just popped into my inbox. In effect, it shows the value of a walk in the future Talisman parkland. You can click on the one-minute video to virtually experience it. A key insight is the *economic* value of a walk in the woods, which a recent study has documented. (Second attachment.).

To: Richmond Mayor and Council
From: Jim Wright, Richmond
Re: Item 2 of today's public hearing, Monday, January 17, 2022

Thank you very much, Richmond Council! Along with our Richmond staff, Polygon and citizens, you have put so much effort—for several years—into improving the Talisman Park development proposal.

A big change is the designating of the Talisman forest as public parkland (**dark green, at the south end in the map below**). I support that as part of a commitment to retain and enhance the Talisman forest as an ecosystem, a natural area that exemplifies the City of Richmond's related aims. They include:

- Relevant aims in Richmond's Ecological Network Management Strategy, including the ones I identified in a booklet I prepared for you (PH-242 & 243 in the public hearing agenda package)
- Commitment to addressing the climate emergency by adapting to it and limiting it.
- Respectful empowering of the ecosystem of the Talisman forest as brought out by Sharon MacGougan, Yvonne Bell and others (in and around October 2020), with Council, CoR staff and Polygon staff heeding the input and furthering it.
- Providing interpretation features that enable & strengthen public buy-in.



The Talisman forest parkland would remain a natural area, with related park values. It might be most like the Terra Nova Natural Area, although all of the City of Richmond's natural areas, including ones that are local parks, have unique characteristics worth drawing on.

I encourage that the protection and enhancement of the natural area begin as soon as the ownership transition allows it. That would include protection from damage by the development equipment. However, a development step like the removal of invasive species could best occur in the Talisman forest at while it's being done in the rest of Talisman Park. For example, the forest includes a large patch of invasive weed that will need to be excavated, and some of the Talisman farm soil that would mainly be taken to the Garden City Lands could be appropriately used there and in a few other parts of the Talisman forest that need it. I have gone into a detailed example on this point because I believe that *promptly* starting well is a crucial way to ensure, enable and empower success.

As I envision it, the Talisman forest parkland will be great. However, it does depend on Council, CoR staff, Polygon and informed citizens remaining committed to bringing it about in a whole-hearted way.