

TO: MAYOR & Parks,

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Recreation and Cultural Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday, October 25, 2011.

Memorandum

Parks and Recreation

To:

Mayor and Councillors

Date:

October 20, 2011

From:

Mike Redpath

06-2345-00/Vol 01

Senior Manager, Parks

File:

Re:

Railway Avenue Trail Development

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update regarding the Railway Avenue Corridor trail development in response to questions arising at the October 17, 2011 General Purposes Committee meeting.

In June 2010, the Railway Avenue linear corridor was acquired by the City through the Parks Development Cost Charge Acquisition program. As a condition of the sale, the City agreed that the lands would only be used for public purposes, and that no commercial for profit development (e.g. market residential) would occur on the site for a minimum of 20 years from the acquisition closing date.

The Railway Avenue Corridor has been identified as a major north-south Greenway/Trail in the Official Community Plan, and in the Council approved 2010 Trails Strategy. The proposed trail will cross the entire island connecting to many neighbourhoods, and it will ultimately link the Middle Arm of the Fraser River (near the current City Works Yard) to Britannia Heritage Shipyard on the South Arm of the Fraser.

In October 2011, Parks is initiating a clean up of the old rail corridor in preparation to open up sections of the trail to the public. This will include brush cutting, and removal of invasive plants and overgrown vegetation that have resulted from the discontinuation of maintenance by CPR. A detailed planning process for the corridor is scheduled to begin in 2012. If you require any further information, please contact me at 604-247-4942 or 604-787-3114.

Mike Rednath

Senior Manager, Parks

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