

Mar 8th, 2010 Monday, March 8, 2010.

To Richmond City Council

Re: Purchase of Garden City Lands through Community Legacy Land Replacement fund

The Community Legacy Land Replacement fund was created to replenish the city's land inventory it is fitting that the approx 141 million dollars received from the sale of the Brighthouse Estates / Oval lands can now create a lasting legacy for generations to come by using a fraction of those funds to purchase the 136 acre's known commonly as the Garden City Lands .

City Council back in the early 60's had the for sight to purchase Brighthouse estates to insure the city would have green space that would act as lungs for our fair city. Now this council has an opportunity to purchase an amazing 136 acre jewel in the heart of our metropolitan city for the fair price of \$ 59.17 million dollars . The history books will state that this council, had the for sight to make smart decisions for the future needs of the people of Richmond . Years from now this purchase price will seem a bargain as property value's continue to sore with the Metro Vancouver area now considered the most livable city in the world . When you compare prices in Vancouver with other major cities like Hong Kong, New York and London for example our prices are low and can only go up , in the future.

During the public hearings 93 % of people polled wanted to keep the Garden City lands green and in the 150 applications received by the Agricultural Land Commission 96% wanted the same thing. City council can vote to have another public hearing but I think I can speak for an overwhelming majority of Richmond citizens when I say , Yes this is money well spend.

Richmond needs a Stanley park of our own and the Garden City Lands are our last opportunity to achieve this essential goal. I know this is a lot of money but this council has made tough choices in the past and if you just do that math this is the right thing to do. You sold a mear 18.5 acres for 141 million and can purchase a whopping 136 acres for only 59.17 million , this is a good deal for Richmond .We have a signed sales agreement with the Musqueam and the Canada Lands Company now is the time to seize this opportunity.

Imagine Vancouver without Stanley park..... can you visualize sky scrapers all along the shoreline, multi level parking garages ,endless shopping malls..... what a shame it would have been if the green space we all take for granted now was simply not saved all those years ago.

This council has proven it is capable of creating legacy's and this legacy will be the one you will be most proud of when you look back years from now. Be remembered like the council in 1962 for thinking ahead and making a choice to save green space for our childrens children and their childrens children.

Carol Day