



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee

Date: May 5, 2014

From: Mike Redpath
Senior Manager, Parks

File: 11-7025-01/2014-Vol
01

Re: Agreement with the Sharing Farm Society

Staff Recommendation

1. That the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Community Services be authorized to execute all documentation required to implement a five year agreement with the Sharing Farm Society for the purposes of the Society farming a 2.8 acre portion of land at Terra Nova Rural Park, at a rental rate of \$10.00 per year and other terms and conditions set out in attachment 2 of the staff report, dated May 5, 2014.

Mike Redpath
Senior Manager, Parks
(604-247-4942)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

At the July 14, 2008 Council meeting, Council approved the following resolution:

A license from the City to the Richmond Fruit Tree Sharing Project for the use of a portion of the land at Terra Nova Rural Park for a Community Sharing Farm be approved as detailed in the staff report dated June 11, 2008 and other terms as deemed necessary by the City.

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the activities of the Sharing Farm Society (SFS) and recommend that the City enter into a revised agreement with SFS for an additional five year term.

This report responds to the following Council Term Goals #8 Sustainability and #10 Community Wellness:

8. *To demonstrate leadership in sustainability through continued implementation of the City's Sustainability Framework; and*
10. *Continue to collaborate with community organizations and agencies to optimize resources in the implementation of the City's adopted Wellness Strategy.*

Analysis

Background:

Since 2008, the SFS has harvested and donated over 200,000 pounds of healthy fruits and vegetables to assist low income and families in need in Richmond. The majority of the food has been donated to the Richmond Food bank and other local charitable organizations.

The Fruit Sharing Project began in 2001 with the harvesting of seed rows of surplus vegetables from the West Coast Seeds Demonstration Garden in Richmond, and the coordination of volunteers to pick excess fruit from Richmond property owners' fruit trees. In 2004, the Society entered into an agreement with the City to use 1.4 acres of land at the South Dyke as a Community Sharing Farm Site. This site was used for the production of vegetables until 2007, when the Society fully moved its vegetable farming operations to a site at Terra Nova Rural Park (Attachment 1).

Since 2008, the Society has implemented its Community Teaching Orchard at the South Dyke site and the Richmond Farm School at Terra Nova Rural Park, in partnership with Kwantlen Polytechnic University and the City of Richmond. In addition to growing food, the Society has developed a Farm Centre at the Terra Nova Rural Park, which includes storage, a greenhouse, and several other small support structures. The Society offers numerous corporate and volunteer opportunities to over 1,000 volunteers annually. They work in partnership with multiple organizations to collaborate on food security initiatives, implement educational programs for

people of all ages, with an emphasis on youth; and they manage an annual community event, the Garlic Festival.

Given the success of the agreement between the City and the SFS, from 2008 to 2013, staff recommend that the parties enter into a similar agreement for the period from June 2014 to May 2018, for the Terra Nova site only, under the same basic terms as the existing agreement (Attachment 2).

Next Steps

Subject to approval, staff will develop an agreement based on the proposed business terms as detailed in Attachment 1. The agreement may be structured as a Partnering Agreement pursuant to section 21 of the *Community Charter*.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

Conclusion

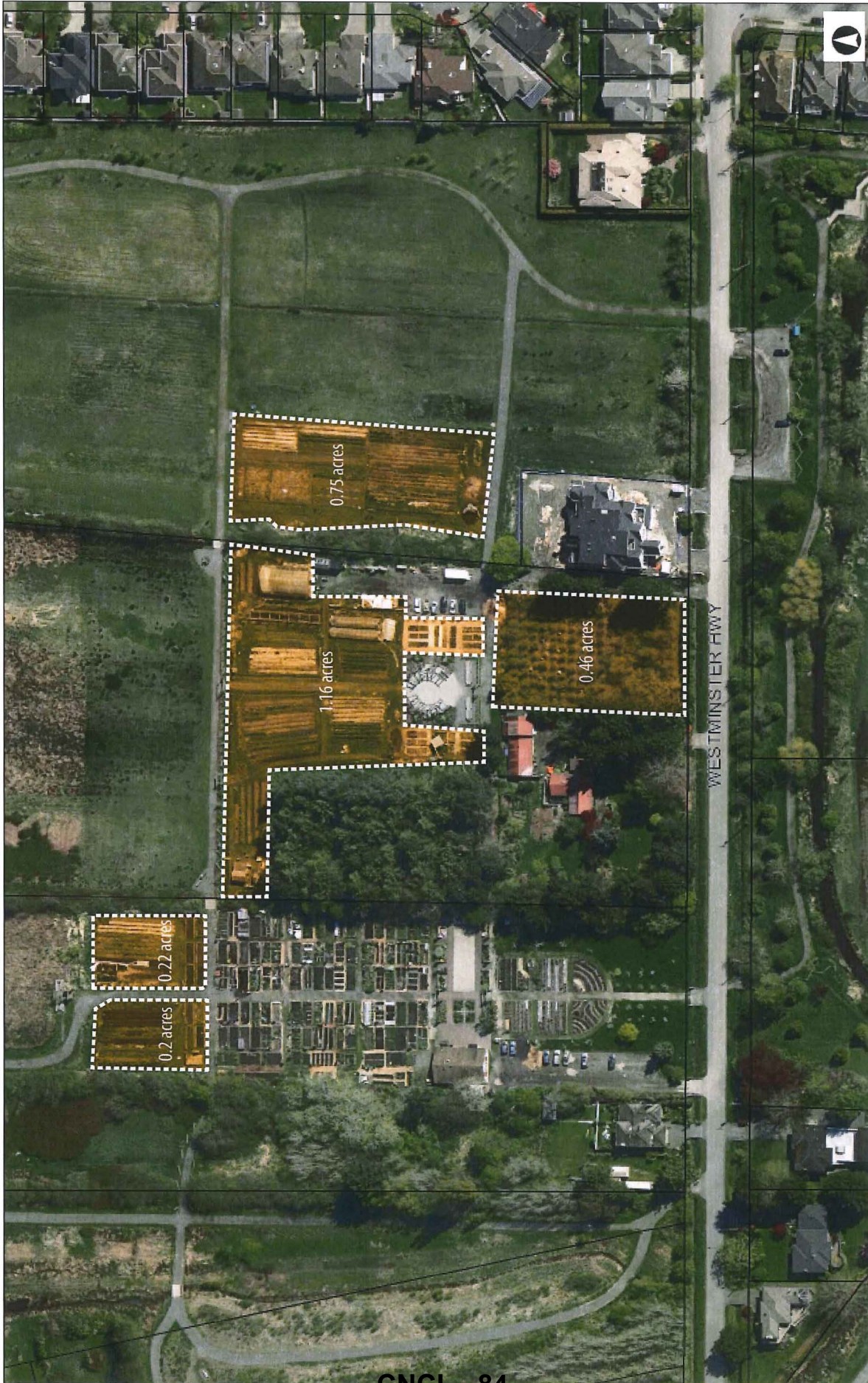
This report recommends that the City enter into an agreement with the Sharing Farm Society for a portion of the land at Terra Nova Rural Park located at 2631 Westminster Highway and 2771 Westminster Highway, for the purpose of a community sharing farm. The agreement will be for a five year term commencing in June 2014 and rental rate of \$10 per year, under the terms and conditions outlined in this report. The activities of the Richmond Sharing Farm Society at Terra Nova Rural Park have helped advance the vision for Terra Nova as a centre for sustainable community based agriculture and helped to put thousands of pounds of fresh produce into the Richmond Food Bank to help Richmond citizens in need.



Dee Bowley-Cowan
Acting Manager, Parks Programs
(604-244-1275)

- Att. 1: Sharing Farm – Site Map
- 2: Sharing Farm – Terms of Agreement

Terra Nova Rural Park - Sharing Farm Site



84.7 0 42.36 84.7 Meters

© City of Richmond

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.
THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Proposed Terms for Agreement with the Sharing Farm Society for Terra Nova Rural Park at
2631 Westminster Highway and 2771 Westminster Highway (the "Site")

Term	Five years
Commencement Date	June 2, 2014
Licensee	The Sharing Farm Society (the "Licensee")
Rental Rate	\$10 per year
Improvements	Any improvements to the Site may be allowed with prior written permission by the City and provided they are appropriately permitted.
Permitted Use	The Licensee is permitted to engage in organic growing of fruits and vegetables. Herbicides, insecticides, chemical fertilizers, animal poisons and non-organic materials, included treated wood, are not permitted.
Sales	No sales are permitted on the Site without written permission from the City.
Insurance	As required by the City including \$5 million commercial general liability insurance listing the City of Richmond and its employees as an additional insured.
Water Services	The Licensee is responsible for water services, including but not limited to irrigation of the Site. Any changes to the original irrigation must be approved through the City and the City will make arrangements for metered water at the cost of the Licensee prior to installation.
Parking	Parking is permitted in the designated parking lots on Site.
Farming Supplies	Farming supplies such as soil, seeds, and farming equipment are to be provided by the Licensee at its own expense.
Waste	Waste, recycling, and composting are the cost and responsibility of the Licensee.
Termination	Either party may, without cause, terminate this agreement on 90 days' notice.
Representation	The Licensee must not act as the City's representative in any matter, and particularly with the media.
Recognition	The City must be recognized as a supporter in all marketing materials and communications related to the Sharing Farm.
Special Events	Special events require prior written approval from the City which may be withheld or denied at the City's discretion. Minimum of eight weeks notice is required.

Monthly/Annual Reporting	An annual report is required including financial statements and a summary of operations.
Office Space	Non-exclusive office space is provided within the Buemann House at 2771 Westminster Highway. Office supplies such as furniture, equipment, phone line, and internet are to be provided by the Licensee at its own cost.
Greenhouses	The two greenhouse buildings maintenance, and all costs associated with the buildings, is the responsibility of the Licensee.
Compost Bins and Roof	The compost bins and roof maintenance and all costs associated with the building, are the responsibility of the Licensee.
Storage	Equipment and supplies are only to be stored in the designated areas or in the Licensee designated storage space. Any additional storage containers shed and/or buildings are to be approved by the City.
Drainage	The Licensee is responsible for land improvements to the Site, including but not limited to drainage. Any changes to the drainage must be approved by the City.
Liaison	The Licensee will provide the City current contact information, and Director contacts.