



# **Corporate** NO: C424

# **Report** COUNCIL DATE: May 10, 1999

## **COUNCIL-IN-COMMITTEE**

**TO: Mayor & Council**    **DATE: April 9, 1999**

**FROM: General Manager**    **FILE: 0889-048**

**Parks, Recreation and Culture**

**SUBJECT: Cloverdale Millennium Youth Park**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the information be received.
2. That the location selected by the Cloverdale Youth Park Committee at 176 Street and 62/62A Avenue for the Cloverdale Millennium Youth Park be approved.

## **BACKGROUND**

On April 7, 1999 the Cloverdale Youth Park Committee appeared before the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission to present their recommendations for the proposed Cloverdale Millennium Youth Park. The Committee made an excellent presentation and the following recommendations were approved.

*That Commission:*

1. *Receive the Cloverdale Millennium Youth Park report;*
2. *Approve the proposed Youth Park location in Cloverdale; and*
3. *Recommend that this delegation make a presentation to Council.*

This project also represents a unique partnership with Simon Fraser University. Dr. Greg Finnegan and his colleague Donna McTavish have carried out the needs assessment and public input process. Their report is attached.

## **DISCUSSION**

On March 23, 1999, the *Cloverdale Youth Park Committee* held a publicly advertised Open House at Lord Tweedsmuir High School in order to give the Cloverdale community a chance to voice their opinions about the Youth Park being planned as part of the City of Surrey's Millennium Program. The purpose of the Open House, beyond receiving public feedback, was two-fold. The first objective was to educate the public about the research and decision-making process for site selection. Secondly, the Committee wanted to indicate to the public that the Youth Park is going to be a multi-dimensional facility that will meet the needs of various youth user groups.

The Open House was well attended by youth and representatives of the major stakeholders; these included the Chamber of Commerce, the Business Improvement Association, the Parents Advisory Committee, Councillor Barbara Steele (Millennium Committee) and various Surrey municipal officials. The room was set up by the youth to show interested parties the various stages by which the planning process has been carried out. This consisted of numerous information bulletin boards, videos, park and skateboard plans, photographic essays, poetry and art work. Youth helped set up the information stations, volunteered at the welcoming desk and discussed issues with people attending the Open House. In addition to Brad Milburn and Mike Grimkowski on the front desk, the following youth and youth workers served at the stations:

- 1) Location analysis, site selection process and the vote: Sean Overin, Joey Pratap, Matt Powell with Dr. Greg Finnegan, SFU;
- 2) Park design, amenities and content: Scott Campbell and Mr. Lindsay Gowler, Landscape Architect;
- 3) Youth culture and youth parks: Amy Barrington, Nick Mather, Ryan Gauthier and Ms. Donna McTavish, SFU;
- 4) Fund raising: Scott Johnston and Ms. Lara McKenzie, Cloverdale Youth Coordinator.

A comment station (“Ground Zero”) was established to allow City staff to deal with any major problems or issues identified by Cloverdale residents. In order to record the meeting, a set of photographs were taken.

## Site Selection

The preferred site is located immediately north of the future location of the Cloverdale Community Recreation Centre at 176 Street and 62/62A Avenue (see attachment). The proximity to the future Centre will allow for more effective supervision and programming. The size of the site will also allow the Youth Park to be in a natural setting such as is found at the South Surrey Youth Park where the amenities are located by the edge of the forested area.

The site is central to Cloverdale and will be easily accessible by transit as there is currently a bus stop at the intersection of 176 Street and 64 Avenue.

Other sites that were considered but were rejected were:

- Greenaway Park - not as suitable because of the slope and its adjacency to the high school;
- Cloverdale Athletic Park - not as suitable because it is located on the outskirts of Cloverdale and is not as easily accessible to youth; and

- South side of Highway #10 - there are major access difficulties.

The site selection was initially done through comments sheets to stakeholders, followed by a voting process that eventually led to a consensus decision for the preferred site. The public who attended the Open House were supportive of the recommended site.

## **CONCLUSION**

A new Youth Park in Cloverdale has been identified as a priority capital project in the City of Surrey's Millennium Program. Staff, in partnership with Dr. Gary Finnegan of Simon Fraser University, have worked with youth in an extensive public input process to develop a concept plan and identify a preferred site. Once the site has been approved by Council, staff can proceed to the detailed design stage.

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Parks, Recreation and Culture

DH:jl

Attachment