

	NO: R171	COUNCIL DATE: September 16, 2019	
REGULAR	COUNCIL		
TO:	Mayor & Council	DATE:	September 11, 2019
FROM:	Acting General Manager, Engineering General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Cultu		0870-20/406B
SUBJECT:	Acquisition of Property at 12336 – 103A Avenue for Parkland and Drainage Purposes		

RECOMMENDATION

The Engineering Department and the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department recommend that Council approve the purchase of the property at 12336 - 103A Avenue (PID No. 011-565-993) for parkland and drainage purposes, as illustrated on the map attached as Appendix "I".

INTENT

The intent of this report is to seek Council's approval to purchase the property at 12336 - 103A Avenue (the "Property") for parkland and drainage purposes.

DISCUSSION

Property Description

The Property is an 8,283.33m² (89,161 ft.²) rectangular shaped parcel located in an older residential neighbourhood in South Westminster.

Zoning, Plan Designations and Land Uses

The Property is zoned Single Family Residential (RF) Zone and is designated Urban in the Official Community Plan. The highest and best use of the Property, absent the park designation, is the current single-family residential use.

Purpose of the Acquisition

This acquisition will protect a portion of Robson Creek, a significant fish bearing stream in the City. It will also protect the north-south running Biodiversity Conservation Strategy ("BCS") Corridor, a local corridor protecting wildlife movement in perpetuity, as illustrated on the map attached as Appendix "II". There are significant erosion concerns in this area which limit the reconstruction of the dwelling on this Property. The Property will be managed as a natural area, with habitat preservation and enhancement the priority.

Contract of Purchase and Sale

A purchase and sale agreement has been negotiated with and accepted by the owners of the Property. The agreement is supported by an appraisal that was completed by an accredited, independent appraiser. The agreement is subject to City Council approval on or before September 18, 2019. Sale completion will take place upon registration of transfer documentation in the Land Title Office.

FUNDING

The Finance Department has confirmed that funds for this acquisition are available from the 2019 Parkland Acquisition Program and the Drainage Budget.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Acquiring the Property supports the objectives of the City's Sustainability Charter 2.0. In particular, the acquisition relates to the Sustainability Charter 2.0 themes of Built Environment and Neighbourhoods, Health and Wellness, Ecosystems and Infrastructure. Specifically, this acquisition supports the following Desired Outcomes ("DO") and Strategic Directions ("SD"):

- Neighbourhoods and Urban Design DO5: Trees, green spaces and natural areas are integrated into all neighbourhoods;
- Neighbourhoods and Urban Design SD3: Integrate natural areas, ecosystems and green areas in all neighbourhoods;
- Wellness and Recreation SD6: Provide opportunities for all residents, especially children, to interact with green spaces and trees;
- Natural Areas, Biodiversity and Urban Forest DO2: Surrey actively protects, enhances and restores its natural environment and habitats; and
- Infrastructure DO3: Infrastructure systems are designed to protect human health, preserve environmental integrity, and be adaptable to climate change impacts.

CONCLUSION

The terms of the purchase and sale agreement are considered reasonable. This acquisition will protect a portion of Robson Creek and a portion of the BCS corridor, as well as will ensure adequate drainage conveyance is maintained throughout the system. The Engineering Department and the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department therefore recommend that Council approve the purchase of the Property for parkland and drainage purposes, as illustrated on the map attached as Appendix "I".

Scott Neuman, P.Eng. Acting General Manager, Engineering Laurie Cavan General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture

BLO/amg/cc

Appendix "I" – Aerial Photograph of Site Appendix "II" – Biodiversity Conservation Strategy Corridor

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