



Corporate NO: R096

Report COUNCIL DATE: May 1, 2000

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council **DATE: April 25, 2000**

FROM: General Manager, Engineering **FILE: 4800-504**

SUBJECT: 2000 Salmon Habitat and Restoration Program: "SHaRP"

RECOMMENDATION

That Council authorize the 2000 SHaRP program for watershed stewardship and environmental enhancement activities to proceed to a maximum projected value of \$381,400.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to apprise Council about the program and seek authorization for the activities to be undertaken by the students in the SHaRP program during the summer of 2000 with respect to watershed stewardship.

SALMON HABITAT AND RESTORATION PROGRAM (SHaRP)

Goal

The primary goal of the program is to mitigate urban impacts on streams through enhancement and restoration projects.

Funding

In previous years, this program has been funded primarily by the City's drainage budget with additional support from the Province. For the SHaRP 2000 program, we are looking to expand our partnerships to include funding contributions from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and School District No. 36. The funding for this year's program is tentative at this time as the other funding sources have yet to confirm their contributions. The total budget projected is \$381,400 which is envisioned to have the following funding contributions:

Engineering Department (Drainage Utility)	\$150,000
DFO (Habitat Restoration and Salmon Enhancement Program)	100,000
B.C. "Environmental Youth Team" Program	100,000
Youth Options B.C. Program	6,400
School District No. 36 (Surrey)	<u>25,000</u>
TOTAL	\$381,400

If some of the anticipated grants are not received, the scope of the program will be adjusted accordingly.

BACKGROUND

The Salmon Habitat and Restoration Program began in 1996 utilizing 18 high school and post-secondary students during the summer for the purpose of rehabilitating fish habitat, including ravine clean-up, stream bank planting, spawning bed enhancements and minor erosion control works. Through the subsequent years, the program expanded to encompass a larger variety of environmental works. In 1998 and 1999, the student team was enlarged to include over 43 students and have public education on the environment as an additional goal. A summary of the 1999 SHaRP program is attached.

A total of 47 students will be hired for the 2000 program comprised of 13 post secondary students as Team Leaders and 34 Surrey high school students. The students will form 8 five-person teams to conduct the work and another team of two students will be assigned to public and media relations, focusing on developing partnerships with existing environmental groups in the community.

The 2000 program is taking a more pro-active *watershed approach* to reflect the evolution of the SHaRP program. The *watershed approach* will involve the selection of 3 watersheds, in north, central and south Surrey, where the *watershed teams* will undertake ravine clean-up, streambank planting, instream enhancement, residential *watershed* education, industrial *watershed* education, water quality sampling, stream mapping and community events. The 2000 program has been designed to ensure quality control. The *watershed* approach promotes a more structured and area specific approach to community stewardship and will result in a higher level of community participation and awareness. In addition, review and maintenance of past works will be conducted.

The program is managed by the Drainage & Environment Section of the Engineering Department with the assistance of an Environmental Engineering consultant. The Environmental Engineering consultant proposed to be retained for managing the 2000 program is Dillon Consulting Ltd. Dillon has successfully run this program for Surrey providing expertise capable of designing, inspecting and ensuring all instream works are conducted to the highest environmental and engineering standards. Their staff are skilled in student training related to WCB regulations, safety training, habitat restoration techniques, team management and basic hydrologic principals.

The *watershed stewardship* approach for SHaRP 2000 includes the following activities:

- instream fish enhancement
- riparian planting
- ravine/greenway clean-up
- community events/public education

- water quality sampling
- stream mapping (SHIM)
- Invertebrate sampling
- industrial and residential education
- urban forest maintenance

CONCLUSION

The SHaRP 2000 program once again proposes an ambitious schedule of projects aimed at restoring, protecting and enhancing the creeks and streams in the City, all in accordance with Council-adopted stormwater management/drainage policies. The focus of the student program for 2000 will be on *watershed stewardship*. This approach will result in area specific programming focused at the community level. An important spin-off benefit are the employment opportunities and experience for Surrey secondary and post-secondary school students.

Jorgen Johansen, P. Eng.

General Manager, Engineering

PH/LPD/brb/kjj

Attachment

c.c. - Finance, Technology & HR Dept.

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