



Corporate NO: R214

Report COUNCIL DATE: October 2, 2000

REGULAR COUNCIL

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

FROM: General Manager, Engineering **FILE: 1228-020**

SUBJECT: Water Conservation Program - Waterwise Demonstration Garden

RECOMMENDATION

For Council information.

INTENT

To inform Council of the development of a water efficient garden on the City Hall grounds as an education component of the City's water conservation program.

DISCUSSION

In 1998, Council adopted a Water Metering & Demand Management Strategy based on four principles:

1. Corporate leadership;
2. Education and conservation;
3. Effective metering;
4. Equitable rate structure.

As part of the education and conservation component of the strategy, the Engineering and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Departments have developed a concept for a water efficient demonstration garden. The garden's purpose is to showcase water efficient gardening practices that Surrey residents can observe, then apply in their own gardens. The City of Vancouver and the Corporation of Delta have successfully implemented similar programs.

The proposed location of the garden is at the entrance to the City Hall grounds on 144 Street. This area was

chosen both for its central location as well as for its dry, south-facing exposure to the sun. A copy of the concept plan is attached.

The garden will include plants that are readily available in local nurseries. Appropriate signage will also be included, noting plant types and offering water efficient gardening tips. The demonstration garden will be promoted with the assistance of the Surrey Compost Education Centre.

The capital funding for the garden will be provided by the Water Utility. The estimated cost of the garden is \$20,000. The ongoing maintenance will be done by Parks, Recreation and Culture as part of the City Hall grounds maintenance. Work is expected to start at the end of October.

Jorgen Johansen, P. Eng.

General Manager, Engineering

MD:sew

Attachment

c.c. - General Manager, Parks Recreation & Culture

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