



Corporate NO: R056

Report COUNCIL DATE: March 26, 2001_

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council **DATE: March 22, 2001**

FROM: General Manager, Engineering **FILE: 8380-257/A/B/C/D**

SUBJECT: Land Acquisition for Park at Mud Bay (Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Province of British Columbia) (Map 91)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council authorize:

1. the acquisition of PID Nos. 024-968-129 (12660 Highway #99), 024-967-297 (12991 Highway #99) and 024-966-991 (13030 Highway No. 99) for park purposes;
2. the Legislative Services Department to prepare the relevant By-law.

DISCUSSION

1. Property Location - (12660, 12991, 13030 Highway #99)

These provincially-owned, waterfronting properties are located along Mud Bay just south of Highway #99 and west of the Burlington Northern railway tracks. The total area of the proposed acquisition is ±38.72 acres.

2. Zoning, Plan Designations and Land Uses

The subject properties are located within the Agricultural Land Reserve, zoned A-1 (General Agricultural Zone), and designated Agricultural in the Official Community Plan. The Highest and Best Use of Parcel A as shown in Appendix II is green space/protected habitat. The Highest and Best Use of the remaining parcels is limited soil-based agriculture and park.

3. Purpose of the Acquisition

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department has identified these properties for inclusion in the City's overall parks and greenway plan. Currently within the subject area, there is a meandering dirt and gravel trail on top of the existing dyke that is used for recreation by City residents. The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department wishes to formalize this use by providing and maintaining the trail and integrating it with a nature park. Other than the provision of a small staging/parking area and one connecting trail, it is intended to either preserve the natural state of these undeveloped lands or to offer limited soil-based agricultural usage to bona fide local farmers.

4. Contract of Purchase and Sale

Staff have negotiated a Contract of Purchase and Sale Agreement with the owners subject to Council approval by March 27, 2001. Completion is to take place upon registration.

CONCLUSION

The subject acquisitions will provide an area for active recreation on the meandering trail. The trail, which provides a continuous linkage to Boundary Dyke in Delta, is also part of the official spur to the Trans Canada Trail. The acquisitions will also provide an area for both passive recreation through observation opportunities of the natural habitat and limited soil-based agriculture.

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department supports the acquisition of the subject lands.

Jorgen Johansen, P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering

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Appendices

- I. Location Map
- II. Site Plan
- III. Aerial Photograph of Site