

**Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Parks and Recreation
Planning & Environment Committee Meeting
Held at the Vancouver Park Board Office on
Thursday, April 9, 2009**

ATTENDEES:

Park Board Commissioners

Aaron Jasper, Chair
Sarah Blyth, Vice Chair
Constance Barnes
Stuart Mackinnon
Ian Robertson
Loretta Woodcock

Park Board Staff

Piet Rutgers, Director of Planning & Operations
Peter Kuran, Director of Stanley District
Mark Vulliamy, Manager of Research and Planning
Michel Desrochers, Park Planner
Yuna Flewin, Recorder

Guests

Marcel Reghelini, Project Manager, BC Transmission Corporation
Donna McGeachie, Community Relations Manager, BC Transmission Corporation
Tom Bryski, Senior Geotechnical Engineer, Golder Associates
Karen McMillan, Environmental Scientist, Golder Associates
Paula Huber, Planner, City of Vancouver

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, with the following Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes – March 3, 2009
2. David Lam Park – Transmission Line
3. Kensington Park – Skateboard Facility
4. Update on Northeast False Creek
5. Coal Harbour Off-Leash Area
6. 2009 Capital Budget
7. 2008 Capital Close-Out

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Planning & Environment Committee held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 were adopted as circulated.

2. David Lam Park – Transmission Line

Staff introduced the guest speaker, Marcel Reghelini, project manager for BC Transmission Corporation (BCTC). BCTC had approached the Park Board to request a partial use of David Lam Park for their Vancouver City Central Transmission Project. BCTC provided the Committee with background information on the proposed project. The project involves building a new indoor substation (Mount Pleasant substation) at Alberta Street and the Sixth Avenue, an underground transmission cable from existing Cathedral Square substation to the new Mount Pleasant substation and an underground transmission cable from existing Sperling substation to the new Mount Pleasant substation. The target completion date is November 2011.

BCTC explained that the project is needed to increase security of electricity supply to homes and businesses in Vancouver and to increase transmission capacity to the South False Creek area to meet future population growth. The project aims to replace old and deteriorated distribution and transmission facilities, provide a seismically secure transmission link between the south and north sides of False Creek and provide a closer and seismically secure supply source through a new substation for distributing electricity to customers in the South False Creek area.

BCTC has chosen the transmission route through David Lam Park over a more eastern route because it provides more security of electricity supply and reliable electrical system. By routing the transmission line through David Lam Park BCTC aims to off load some of the power from the Murrin substation. The route through David Lam Park also better facilitates power demands created by population growth in the area by connecting to another substation, Dal Grauer.

The next step for BCTC is to conduct an exploratory pilot drill into the bedrock to determine the feasibility of horizontal directional drilling for crossing beneath False Creek. The benefits of horizontal directional drilling as opposed to using a tunnel boring machine are:

- affected area of David Lam Park will be 40% smaller
- drilling time will be four months compared to eight months with a tunnel boring machine
- cost savings of \$8 to \$15 million dollars to the consumers

The timing of pilot drill needs to start now in order to make the project completion target of November 2011. There is not enough time after the Olympics should a tunnel boring machine method be chosen instead of the horizontal directional drilling.

During the pilot testing approximately 2% of David Lam Park will be used as a work site, 80m² of paved area will need to be removed and restored upon completion, and four or five trees will need to be removed and replaced after the testing. The time frame for activities in total takes 13 to 15 weeks to complete. Site preparation activities are estimated up to 3 weeks, drilling activities 36 to 48 weeks, and restoration of the work area takes 3 to 4 weeks.

BCTC proposes a number of conditions to minimize disruptions to the park visitors during the project:

- the Pacific Boulevard sidewalk remains open
- walkway in park remains open
- playing field remains open
- no work will be performed on Sundays
- no work will be performed during special events
- visually screened work area with 8 foot safety fencing
- noise controlled below noise bylaw requirements
- restoration and re-vegetation of affected areas under the guidance of the Park Board staff

Typical noise levels during drilling will range from 60 – 75 dbA. Vancouver Noise Control Bylaw for construction noise limit is 85 dbA. BCTC has also notified 27,000 residents in the project area and held two open houses in December of 2008 and February of 2009. Over 60 people attended the first open house, and over 90 people attended the second open house. BCTC continues to work with the Park Board staff and welcomes feedback from the Committee.

Discussions:

The following is a summary of Commissioners' discussions regarding BCTC's proposal:

- We need to obtain more information about the trees scheduled for removal and replanting.
- Staff will include an assessment by a Park Board arborist in the final report to the Board.
- Will the project completion date differ should BCTC choose the tunnel boring machine method?
- Whichever method gets selected the completion target is November 2011.
- The duration of continuous noise will affect residents as well as the level of noise. Will there be long periods of noise during the project?
- There will be a mix of continuous and intermittent noises depending on the activities. The project will follow the Vancouver Noise Bylaw for operational hours.
- Why was the route through David Lam Park chosen as opposed to the one leading to Murrin substation?
- Both routes will supply the same amount of power; however, the route through David Lam Park will experience minimized risk due to seismic issues.
- Why was the widest crossing over False Creek chosen as the new route?
- The route was selected to accommodate work sites on both shores. Originally a portion of Charleston Park and a larger section of David Lam Park were selected as

work sites, but in order to minimize the impact of the project the work site was moved further west in David Lam Park.

- Will any areas of surface water be affected by the project? The area is well used for recreational activities such as boating.
- There is significant area coverage between the park pathway and the water, and that is where the project drilling will take place.
- How has the community responded to the public open house survey regarding the two routes?
- The two options were equally supported, and the reason for choosing the route through David Lam Park is to do with the security of power line.

The following delegation requested to speak to the Committee regarding the proposal:

- Mike Alexander, Project Area Resident

The following is a summary of comments provided by the foregoing delegation:

- Questions the project team's reason for choosing the route through David Lam Park.
- Asks the other route be more thoroughly examined for feasibility.

The Commissioners directed staff to return to the Board on May 4th with more comprehensive report that contains more information of the other route in coordination with City staff, more information on the trees scheduled for relocation and information about further disruptions should the test drilling be successful.

3. Kensington Park – Skateboard Facility

Staff presented to the Committee the result of public consultation regarding the proposed Kensington Park skateboard facility under the direction of the Board on January 19, 2009. The consultation process included an open house on March 25, 2009, a notice on the Planning Department web page, notice letters to about 900 residents in the two-block radius from the park, newspaper advertisement in two papers – Ming Pao and Courier, a signage on site, an article in a community paper, Kensington Review, entry in the feature article box on the Park Board home page, the City of Vancouver events listing web page and the City of Vancouver construction project web listing. At the open house participants were asked to fill out a questionnaire, and 82 responses were received. The questionnaire asked about interest in the project, information about the participants and opinion about the project. Staff distributed the summary of feedback to the Committee for information. In addition to the feedback on the questionnaire, a petition with 87 names against the project was presented to the Commissioners at the open house, 7 emails and 4 telephone calls against the project were received. Overall, the results showed 64.64% for and 32.9% against the project. The results also showed higher percentage of residents living closer to the park were against the project. The results from the public consultation showed the two sides are highly polarized and the majority of supporters and opposition are very passionate about the issue. The supporters

state that the project will facilitate positive activities for the youth in the underused and underserved park. Similarly, the opposition states the project will increase the drug use, graffiti and noise level and questions the Board's spending priority over other potential projects.

Staff commented that moving the skateboard facility to another location will not solve many of the negative issues associated with the project such as increased noise level, drug use and graffiti. The busy crossing at Knight Street is problematic, but the City Engineering Department is planning to install a left-turn signal at the intersection, and staff recommends the Park Board engages in further discussions with Engineering. The placement of the skateboard facility extends to about the size of a tennis court in a park that takes up about one block and a half. The important design issue is to have the facility well screened and contained for visual aesthetics and noise issues without hiding it from view. Access to the facility and pedestrian path needs to be addressed as senior patrons frequent the community centre and there is a potential conflict. The Skateboard Strategy recommends connecting community centres to skateboard facilities due to availability of existing resources such as staff, emergency response, first aid and washrooms. Staff pointed out that the community centres are not always open and youth workers are not necessarily on site, however.

Discussions:

The following is a summary of Commissioners' discussions regarding the skateboard facility proposal:

- How is the community responding to the existing skateboard parks?
- The plaza downtown after the two-year trial period received a surprising approval rate of 70% from the Citygate Community. Another location, Quilchena Park received an enormous opposition when the project was proposed; however, since the completion of the facility a couple of years ago the Park Board has not received any negative comments regarding the skateboard facility or its use. The Strathcona facility was never controversial and blends quite well with other park use. Overall the skateboard facilities do not generate many complaints.
- Will the project involve building fencing around the facility?
- The building of fencing is being considered for containing noise and mitigating traffic concerns from Knight Street.
- Will there be any measures taken to mitigate conflict between pedestrians and skateboarders on the access pathway?
- A special surfacing that is unattractive for staking but accommodates wheelchairs can be used.
- How can the noise be mitigated?
- The traffic on Knight Street absorbs the skating noise, the shape of the bowl will contain much of the noise and a smooth finish can be used on the bowl surface to minimize the noise.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Committee regarding the proposal:

- John Schneider, Resident
- Gayle Uthoff, Resident
- Chris Young, Vancouver Skateboard Coalition
- Ethan Ray, Skateboarder
- Jason LaMarsh, Director of Vancouver Skateboard Coalition
- Brad Templin

The following is a summary of comments provided by the foregoing delegations:

- The park is greatly used and very busy. It's a bad location for a skateboard facility.
- With 6-lane traffic on Knight Street that is also a truck route the life in the neighbourhood is very stressful.
- There are two other parks that are underused in the neighbourhood.
- The notice for this meeting was only sent on Monday in the mail.
- There was no advertisement of the public open house in the Chinese language in a neighbourhood many of the residents' mother tongue is Chinese.
- The drugs are a major problem in the park and will worsen if the project went ahead.
- In favour of the proposal. Visited other skateboard parks and spoke to parents who are very positive about the facility.
- Skateboarding is a very positive sport for youth, which involves a lot of mentorship and teaching. A skateboard facility will help engage youth in community activities.
- Youth are currently using back lanes to practise skateboarding, and this is an opportunity to keep children off the streets.
- Skateboard parks are very much needed in the southeast corridor of the city.
- A skateboard park in Coquitlam allows people of all ages to hang out together.
- Some of the misconceptions about skateboarders are not necessarily true. Skateboarders do not bring drinking any more than tennis players.
- Let's take advantage of the hill and use it as a vantage point for all to enjoy. Seniors can hang out with their grandchildren right beside the skateboarding facility.
- Bonsor Park in Burnaby has kids' playground right next to the skateboard facility, and people love it.
- Currently, needs for skateboard parks are not being met, and children are playing in the streets and alleys.
- It's important to recognize demand for the sport and provide a safe place. It is an opportunity for the community to integrate this often alienated sub-culture and not segregate it.
- Teens turn to drugs and join gangs because they are bored to tears. The skateboard facility will provide necessary activities for youth.
- The bowl should be constructed facing away from the residence in order to minimize the noise.
- There should be no concrete fencing along the park as it will be unsightly. Short trees may be ideal.
- Implement surveillance / monitoring system to control drug activities in the park.

A petition with 450 signatures in support of the proposal was presented to the Committee.

A letter in support of the skateboard facility from an area resident was presented to the Committee. The letter stated that skateboarding is an important team sport for youth, which provides structure and discipline, raises self-esteem and keeps children away from other unwanted activities. It is also an opportunity for parents to keep common ground with their children. The letter also stated that many of the misconceptions about skateboarders and their activities are simply not true and that the criticism must be based on real experience and not speculation.

Discussion:

The following is a summary of Commissioners' discussion regarding the skateboard facility proposal:

- Why was Kensington Park chosen?
- The Skateboard Strategy recommends building the facility near a Park Board building and preferably one with on-site staff as opposed to a field house. Currently, most of the skateboard parks are located in the northeast section of the city, and the Kensington site was chosen for the purpose of better distributing skateboard facilities in the city. There are no skateboard parks located in south of 12th Avenue or east of Main Street. After an investigation Killarney Park was also raised as a possibility, but due to the current construction activities the site was deemed not feasible at this time.
- Can the staff look into facilitating public consultation from the Chinese speaking community in their mother tongue?
- 33% of the neighbourhood population uses Chinese as their first language, and the Park Board relies on word of mouth to get their feedback. Currently, there is no in-house capacity for receiving feedback in Chinese. Also many of the Chinese-speaking residents do understand English.
- What is Vancouver Skateboard Coalition?
- The group was formed by people of all ages spanning from 12 years old to late 30's, who like to skateboard in all areas of the Lower Mainland.
- Is there a lot of drug use in the skateboard parks?
- There is no more drug use at skateboard parks than at tennis courts.
- Is there a lot of police presence at skateboard parks?
- There is no more police presence at skateboard parks than at other parks.
- Can the park be converted into other uses should the project be found unsuccessful?
- Retro-fitting may be difficult and will be brought up at the design stage, but the result could be removal.
- Is noise mitigation incorporated into the design?

- Bowls are generally not considered major noise generator. At this point the design potential is open, and noise control and testing measures can be included in the terms of reference.
- Will tree fencing be a good idea?
- The noise and traffic control along Knight Street should be done in coordination with the City Engineering Department. It is an ongoing problem and should be addressed even if the skateboard park does not go through.
- Can the community centre play a part in crime prevention?
- It will be addressed in the park design.
- Skateboarding is a healthy and positive sport for youth and provides a sense of belonging to the community. In the case of Quilchena Park the whole community was opposed to the park at the planning stage, but the Park Board has not received one complaint after the completion of the park in 2005.
- Look into ways to discourage skateboarders from skating on the sidewalk.
- The drug problem is a concern not limited to Kensington Park. A proposal was raised to look into drug use in the parks in coordination with the police in order to make the community centres a safe place.
- The skateboarding facility will be a healthy choice for children to avoid overweight and obesity problems.
- There are concerns over potential tree fencing that could hide drug activities and asked the staff to look into different options.

Committee directed staff to return to the Board for project approval on April 20.

4. Update on Northeast False Creek

Staff presented updates regarding the City's review of possible changes to the Northeast False Creek Official Development Plan and introduced Paula Huber, planner from the City of Vancouver. The area in question is 30 hectares large and located in the downtown core along the north shore of False Creek where BC Place, GM Place, Plaza of Nations and Science World are located. Since the area development plan review of 2002, broad directions were provided, in which the stakeholders have agreed to maintain sporting events, cultural events, special events and entertainment events in the area. The two stadiums remain an important venue for this purpose, and the Plaza of Nations is slated for replacement. The City's direction also includes maintaining commercial space and allowing space for 7,000 new residents.

General concept for the Northeast False Creek is an open space concept that includes Cooper Park, Andy Livingston Park, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Chinese Garden, downtown skateboard plaza, Creekside Park, and an area proposed for future extension east of Creekside Park. It also includes the waterfront walkway / bike path that is an important recreational corridor. There is a section of the walkway that is located inland due to an existing building that is slated for replacement, at which time the Park Board aims to relocate the walkway to the waterfront. Another important corridor is the Carrall Street Greenway that is under construction. It connects False Creek eventually to Crab Park on the other side of the City.

Staff commented that in the City's plan to allow 7,000 additional residents in the neighbourhood there needs to be consideration for increased Park Board amenities. In addition to the community centre under construction at Southeast False Creek, there will be need for a satellite community centre or adding space to the existing community space. There is also a proposal to create a hub for the Dragon Boaters in the new Creekside Park, which combines a washroom facility and café / concession space that could potentially be paid out of the development fees in Northeast False Creek. The area residents are also in favour of keeping the eastern portion of the water off-limits to motorized boats with the exception of the existing ferry service, Aqua Bus. However, the new plan proposes to build a marina by the Plaza of Nations and at the foot of Abbot Street and requires further discussions with stakeholders and residents.

Discussions:

The following is a summary of Commissioners' discussions regarding the updates on Northeast False Creek:

- Has the City officially approved adding 7,000 residents into the area?
- It is a proposal put forward by the City over and beyond the existing Official Development Plan for the False Creek North.
- Where will the density be created?
- The density will be placed in the north end of Cambie Bridge, a section beside BC Place, GM Place site, and the Plaza of Nations site.
- Who owns the land in question?
- There are four landowners: BC Pavilion Corporation owns BC Place; Aquillini owns GM Place; Canadian Metropolitan Properties owns Plaza of Nations and Concord Pacific owns the rest.
- What is the desired park ratio for residents in the city?
- For every 1,000 residents 1.1 hectares of green space or park space is desirable. This corresponds to 120 sq. feet per person. The ODP area originally had met this desired ratio; however, it is gradually slipping due to increasing population.
- When will the Park Board be able to extend Creekside Park as proposed?

- The timing depends on the rezoning of the area initiated by the landowner, Concord Pacific. Currently this area is zoned commercial and will most likely be rezoned, at which time the Park Board will initiate agreements with the landowner.
- When will the area rezoning begin?
- The City is in the very initial stage of the broad process that includes policy approval by the Council, drafting of the Official Development Plan, and finally sub-area rezoning. The timing of area rezoning is under the discretion of the landowner, and it is unknown at this point when Concord Pacific will begin this process.
- What will Concord Pacific intend to do with the land?
- At the conceptual stage the idea is to reduce commercial space and increase residential space.
- How will the Park Board intend to gain more green and park space to meet the desired park ratio?
- An area under the Georgia viaduct is being considered as well as the new Plaza of Nations site.
- Will there be a permanent space for the Dragon Boaters?
- The Southeast False Creek development will house the Dragon Boaters' trailer and other facilities temporarily. It is Dragon Boaters' desire to eventually build a permanent space in the north side of False Creek.
- Will it be possible to secure space for a community centre as a minimum requirement should there be no additional green or park space?
- It will be up to the on-going discussions with the landowners and the City.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Committee regarding the matter:

- John Murray, Resident of City Gate
- Patsy McMillan, Resident of City Gate
- Adam Vasilevich, Vancouver Public Space Network
- Ann Phelps, Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival
- Anita Webster, Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival
- Fern Jeffries, Keefer Place Community Group
- Marilyn McVicar, Resident of Citygate
- Rick Cooper, Resident of Citygate
- Devin Wright, Resident of Citygate

The following is a summary of comments provided by the foregoing delegations:

- Increasing density is not a problem, but increased green space must accompany density. The neighbourhood is already deficient of green space.

- The seawall pathway all the way to Cambie Bridge is well used by various users including rollerbladers, cyclists, pedestrians, dog owners and gamblers, which often results in conflict of uses.
- The Park Board should adhere to the desired ratio between park space and residents.
- The Park Board should initiate an immediate installation of new addition to Creekside Park right after the 2010 Olympics.
- The Park Board should stick to the current design for the 10-acre lot currently proposed as an extension to the park without subdividing or developing it.
- There was a report presented to the Council in July 1995 in support of maintaining the desired ratio of park space according to the original development plan for the area, which stated it would not be possible to retrofit a building to a park space and it must be provided up front. The park must be built in this area to enhance the livability of the neighbourhood. To accept cash-in-lieu benefits is not in the best interests of the people who live in the area.
- With 10,000 units increase in the area there will be 6-acre shortfall of park space even with Creekside Park from the original official development plan. According to the City Gate Bosa Payment in Lieu Park Space Analysis this amounts to 41 million dollars.
- Without increase in green space the livability of the neighbourhood is in jeopardy.
- 7,000 additional residents will require 21 acres of green space to meet the target ratio.
- The desired ratio for green space is what makes the city livable and desirable. Please do not make that into a piece of history and advocate for less density and more green space and recreational space.
- The residents need the park now and not 15 to 20 years later.
- The Northeast False Creek is one of the last pieces of waterfront property. It should include as much public amenity as possible.
- The current proposal only allows 1/3 of desired park space ratio, and the Park Board should advocate for more green space.
- The Dragon Boat Festival is the first organization to introduce dragon boating in North America and has been running for 21 years.
- The dragon boating is a non-motorized boating sport that complies with the city policy for this area of allowing only non-motorized boating.
- The Dragon Boat Festival is interested in securing a permanent boathouse in Northeast False Creek and financially supporting the building of it.
- The dragon boating is a very popular and inclusive activity that has 5,000 participants every year with people from all walks of life joining in the festival.
- The Dragon Boat Festival is a financially independent event that does not require any funding from any levels of government and generates about 3 million dollars to the local economy every year.
- The Festival offers an opportunity for people who usually have no access to water and often begin life-long involvement in boating activities.
- The Festival has many corporate sponsors and supporters such as Chinatown Business Improvement Association and other local boating groups.
- The Society advocates and seeks support to build a more permanent space.
- The Keefer Place community does not have a community space as it was traded for cash-in-lieu at the time of development.

- An email from the vice president of Concord Pacific was received, and it states that it is premature to be engaging the public until key planning and few feature issues are dealt with in a thorough and comprehensive manner.
- We have an opportunity to make this area very special as an eastern gateway to the water and destination much like Stanley Park or Queen Elizabeth Park.
- Even with the extension of Creekside Park the neighbourhood is still short of the target ratio.
- The proposed increase in density comes with no promise for amenities such as daycare space or schools.
- BC Pavilion Corporation's proposal compromises the City's noise bylaw as the purchasers are requested to give up their right to complain about the noise.
- The residents want to work with the Park Board, the dragon boaters and Public Space Network to oppose the density proposed and respect the health of the local community.
- From psychological perspective, adding 7,000 residents without amenity will increase the stress level of inhabitants, which could result in more aggression, crime rate and mental illness. East Vancouver already has a pandemic problem of aggression, crime and mental illness, and density increase will only add to the problem.
- Some studies show that the recent increase of attention deficit disorder found in children stems from crowding in urban areas.
- Recent studies show that green space is a human biological need and not an amenity. It is essential to human living.
- Recent studies by the Landscape and Human Health Laboratory of the University of Illinois show that green setting activities reduce ADHD symptoms and views of trees from homes can increase girls' self-discipline. Another study by the Chicago Housing Project shows that those houses with trees and vegetation had 7% lower crime rate.
- As our lifestyles become more urban our children are growing up without knowing nature. In Denmark schools are offering a program called wood kindergartens, in which children are taken to a nearby wooded area to experience nature all day.
- We are mistrustful of the developers. Concord Pacific cut down trees on the shoreline illegally.

Discussions:

The following is a summary of Commissioners' discussions regarding the updates on Northeast False Creek:

- Do the residents consider Trillium Park a part of their neighbourhood?
- It is too far from the area.
- What is the process and timing of reporting back to the Board again?
- The Board will be advised once the report gets presented to the City Council in the months ahead.

The Committee expects continuing further discussions with the City on the proposal once the report is brought forward to the City Council .

5. Coal Harbour Off-Leash Area

Staff introduced Coal Harbour residents who had approached the Park Board with regards to a growing safety problem in their neighbourhood.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Committee:

- Lorrie McKenzie, Resident
- Heather Prittie, Resident

The following is a summary of comments provided by the foregoing delegations:

- We are very concerned that there is no safe off-leash area in our neighbourhood.
- We currently drive to Ambleside in West Vancouver or Pacific Spirit Park, which increases unnecessary green house gas emissions and does not help creating a sense of community in Coal Harbour.
- The recent murder of Wendy Ladner Beaudry is a terrible example of how difficult it is to find a safe place for women to walk with or without dogs.
- Lack of off-leash areas forces dog owners to break the law.
- The small space near Harbour Air is too muddy for use.
- Several unpleasant events have occurred due to conflict of park use.
- Dog owners are most social and visible members of the growing community of Coal Harbour.
- By walking our dogs we provide eyes on the street making our community safe.
- It will be ideal to provide an off-leash park in Harbour Green Park.
- We request three measures to be taken into consideration: to establish safe off-leash areas in Coal Harbour; to slow down cyclists at congested points at seawall and to provide ticket amnesty in certain designated areas in Coal Harbour.

Discussions:

The following is a summary of Commissioners' discussions regarding the Coal Harbour Off-Leash Area:

- What is the protocol when residents approach the Board requesting off-leash space?
- The request is referred to the Dog Off-Leash Task Force.
- Do the delegates use Nelson Park as an off-leash park?
- Nelson Park is too far for a regular dog walk and that the area seems to be designed for smaller dogs.

The Committee received delegations' presentation as information and directed staff to pursue the issues raised.

6. 2009 Capital Budget

Staff presented the proposed Capital Expenditures for 2009 as part of the 2009-2011 Capital Plan. The allocation amount seems large due to costs related to the 2010 Olympic Games. \$150,000 out of \$2.1 million for park renewals will be allocated to the renewal of Grandview Park and Norquay Park in 2009. \$300,000 for existing pathways comes out the Bayshore Funds to be used for fixing up the Farm Yard Plaza. New pathways, cycling and universal access allocations are evenly distributed over three years. \$145,000 allocation for the playground replacements is fairly low as there is some leftover from the previous Capital Plan. The Burrard Marina Renewal Study will not be allocated for 2009 as there is a fuel barge issue that needs to be solved. \$1 million allocation for roads and parking lots will be used for Stanley Park and Queen Elizabeth Park.

\$10 million was advanced by the City Council to pay for the curling venue, aquatic centre, Killarney Ice Rink and Trout Lake Ice Rink. Also \$11 million plus \$6 million will be spent on conversion of Hilcrest facility and pool. VANOC has contributed the \$6 million for this as part of the 2010 Olympic agreement.

Committee directed staff to present a final report to the Board on May 4.

7. 2008 Capital Close-Out

Staff presented the financial closeout information of completed capital projects from previous capital plans. In the previous years, the total capital budget was \$14,922,790 and the closeout deficit was \$136,890. Deficit of \$547,775 came from facility development, deficit of \$47,277 came from park development, and surplus of \$458,162 came from land acquisition and planning and overhead. The deficit of \$136,890 amounts to 1% of the total net budget of \$14,922,790. The overhead has a variance of 51% surplus resulting in \$458,082 that offsets other closeout projects and deficits. The surplus from this project is due to savings in the delay of recruiting a facility development coordinator and the 3-months work stoppage. The Sunset Community Centre project has a variance of 4% budget deficit resulting in \$511,232. The recommended funding sources for the \$136,890 deficit are \$46,000 leftover from 2006-2008 facility development and other renovations, \$43,693 from 2009-2011 building infrastructure and \$47,197 from 2006-2008 minor park improvements totalling \$136,890.

Committee directed staff to present a final report to the Board on May 4.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Piet Rutgers, Director,
Planning & Operations

Aaron Jasper, Chair