



Date: March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board**  
**FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation**  
**SUBJECT: Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**

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## RECOMMENDATION

*A) That the Board approves a public consultation regarding the installation of three cellular and electric vehicle charging stations to be located in pay parking lots along Beach Avenue.*

*B) That staff report back to the board with the results of the public consultation and recommendations.*

## POLICY

At the July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Park Board meeting the Board endorsed a new strategic framework developed for 2012 – 2017 including directions in Leader in Greening as well as Excellence in Resource Management.

City Council at its July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011 council meeting passed a motion to adopt the Greenest City Action Plan which contains key goals around eliminating the dependence on fossil fuels and green transportation.

## BACKGROUND

The Park Board in partnership with the City of Vancouver, TELUS and BC Hydro have been working on a pilot project to install three cellular and electric vehicle charging stations in pay parking lots along Beach Avenue to meet the anticipated growth of electric vehicles within the lower mainland as an alternative to fossil fuel sources for transportation.

It is estimated that by 2017, 4.9% of new purchases of light duty vehicles will be electric. With this anticipated growth there will be a need to provide charging stations in convenient public areas and in response to this need the City is supporting the planned installation of 275 stations throughout the city and where suitable, provide this service in partnership with organizations where a mutual benefit exists.

This unique partnership that integrates cellular installation with electrical vehicle charging is in response to TELUS's need to improve their network service in the West

End and the City's need for EV charging capacity. Currently Telus's network capacity in the area is reaching a maximum and in order to meet the service needs of the area (especially during large events such as the Celebration of Lights and the Gay Pride Festival) improvements are necessary.

## **DISCUSSION**

The emerging EV market will result in a need for recharging station in convenient locations that enable the use of electric vehicles which reduce CO emissions by 98% per vehicle. The installation of Cellular and Electric Vehicle charging stations align with Park Board's new Strategic Framework, specifically the Leader in Greening direction.

The addition of a cellular component as part of the pilot project will improve the connectivity and service delivery to the residents in the West End as well as visitors who enjoy the amenities of the community and park environment. The enhanced network will also enable successful calls to first responders during large events.

Further to this, the installations will generate a minimum of \$770,000 over twenty years for the Park Board which supports the Strategic Framework passed in 2011; specifically, the Excellence in Resource Management direction.

## **SUMMARY**

The installation of three cellular and electric vehicle charging stations align with the Parks direction of Leader in Greening as well as the City's goal to be the Greenest City by 2020. The installations are innovative and the first of their kind in a park environment in Canada providing recharging capabilities for electric vehicles as well as an improved cellular network to the residents of the West End and visitors to the area. There is no cost to the Park Board for these installations and there will be a minimum financial benefit of \$770,000 over the next twenty years.

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