

NO: R221

COUNCIL DATE: October 18, 2010

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council **DATE: October 15, 2010**

FROM: General Manager, Engineering **FILE: 0870-70/412**
General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture

SUBJECT: Donation to the City of the Lot at 11783 - 98 Avenue for Park Purposes

RECOMMENDATION

The Engineering Department and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommend that Council approve the acceptance by the City of the property located at 11783 - 98 Avenue as a charitable donation for the expansion of the Tom Hopkins Ravine Park and authorize the issuance to the donor of a receipt for the estimated market value of the property as established by an accredited appraiser.

BACKGROUND

The privately-owned property at 11783 - 98 Avenue is an undevelopable, 6,600 ft.² lot located at the top of the bank of Delta Creek, along and within which the City owns properties that comprise Tom Hopkins Ravine Park (See Appendix I). The Tom Hopkins Ravine Park is a natural area park that is inventoried as a mature, coniferous forest to be managed to protect, preserve, and enhance the native vegetation and to provide for both wildlife habitat and worthwhile recreational opportunities.

DISCUSSION

The undevelopable property at 11783 - 98 Avenue is situated near the edge of the Delta Creek ravine and is affected by invasive plants and is subject to illegal garbage dumping. The owners of the lot have offered to donate the property to the City for an addition to Tom Hopkins Ravine Park. The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department have reviewed the lot and have determined that the lot should be accepted by the City for an addition to the Park. The City has previously accepted two gifts, comprising a total seven lots of similar size to the subject lot, which were added to Tom Hopkins Ravine Park.

Subject to Council approval to accept the subject property as a charitable gift to be added to the Park inventory, City staff will proceed with the necessary work to achieve the freehold transfer of the lot to the City. Following the transfer of the lot, the City will issue the owner/donor a receipt for an amount equivalent to the market value of the property as determined by an accredited appraiser. Once the transfer is complete, the property will be cleaned up and will be managed under the auspices of the City's Natural Areas Management Plan.

CONCLUSION

The owners of the property located at 11783 - 98 Avenue propose to gift this property to the City for Park purposes. Subject to Council approval of such a gift, the lot will be added to the Tom Hopkins Ravine Park properties and will be managed as a natural area. Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve the acceptance by the City of the property located at 11783 - 98 Avenue as a charitable donation for the expansion of the Tom Hopkins Ravine Park and authorize the issuance to the donor of a receipt for the estimated market value of the property as established by an accredited appraiser.

Laurie Cavan
General Manager
Parks, Recreation & Culture

Vincent Lalonde, P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering

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Appendix I: Aerial Photograph of Property and Surrounding Area

APPENDIX I AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH OF SITE



Produced by GIS Section: September 7, 2010, AW

Date of Aerial Photography: April 2009



SUBJECT PROPERTY
11783 98 AVENUE
CHARITABLE GIFT

ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT

The data provided is compiled from various sources and IS NOT warranted as to its accuracy or sufficiency by the City of Surrey.
 This information is provided for information and convenience purposes only.
 Lot sizes, Legal descriptions and encumbrances must be confirmed at the Land Title Office.

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