

ADDENDUM
REGULAR PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM
500 BOWEN ROAD
WEDNESDAY, 2015-SEP-30, COMMENCING AT 6:00 P.M.

| ITEM | | PAGES |
|------|--|-----------|
| 8. | STAFF REPORTS: | |
| (e) | <u>Buttertubs Marsh Management Plan Review – Rob Lawrance.</u> | 28.1-28.2 |
| | <i>Purpose: To provide the Commission with background on the Buttertubs Marsh Management Plan review process in preparation for their review and comment once the draft plan is received in the fall 2015.</i> | |
| | <i>Staff Recommendation: That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive this report for information.</i> | |
| | <i>(Motion required.)</i> | |
| 14. | DELEGATIONS: | |
| (a) | Ian Kalina & Chris Beaton – remove (<i>presenters have requested to defer to the 2015-OCT-28 meeting</i>) | |
| (b) | Daniel Appell – add proposed survey form. | 32.1 |

City of Nanaimo
REPORT TO THE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

DATE OF MEETING: 2015-SEPT-30

AUTHORED BY: ROB LAWRENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

RE: BUTTERTUBS MARSH MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive this report for information.

PURPOSE:

To provide the Commission with background on the Buttertubs Marsh Management Plan review process in preparation for their review and comment once the draft plan is received in the fall 2015.

BACKGROUND:

The Buttertubs Marsh Conservation Area (Conservation Area) is located adjacent to the Millstone River, within the City of Nanaimo. This 22 hectare conservation area consists of reclaimed wetlands (75%) and is bordered by a shrub mixed-forest complex which provides superb public trails, nature view points, and important educational opportunities. The Conservation Area has significant wetland values for a number of species including one red-listed and six blue-listed birds, and one red-listed and one blue-listed reptile species.

There has been a management plan and co-management agreement in place between the City of Nanaimo (through Parks, Recreation and Environment) and the Nature Trust of British Columbia (owner of the wetland) since 2004. A Management Committee meets regularly to review operational activities and to implement the current management plan.

The Conservation Area is one component of a larger wetland, river and floodplain complex which includes an adjoining property known as the "West Marsh". The West Marsh property, located at 175 Pryde Avenue, was acquired in 2012 by the City of Nanaimo and Ducks Unlimited. The land is zoned as a natural park and has an Ecogift designation that provides passive recreation and education opportunities, consistent and compatible with the conservation purposes for which the land was purchased.

The Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability was advised of this project plan review at their meeting held on Wednesday, 2015-SEP-09.

DISCUSSION:

The Conservation Area Management Plan was prepared in November 2004. Since then the Buttertubs Management Committee has been meeting two to three times a year. The Committee is represented by a variety of different interests including the City of Nanaimo, Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Nature Trust of British Columbia, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and volunteer representatives from the Friends of Buttertubs Marsh.

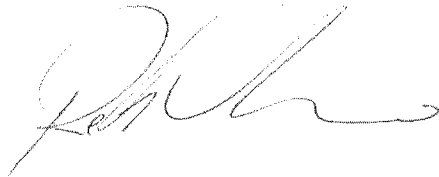
In January 2015, the Management Committee agreed to proceed with a review and update of the existing management plan and to include the West Marsh property as part of the update, taking into account the unique property ownership mandates for each of the properties.

Currently, Madrone Environmental Services has been working to complete the following:

- Summarize the biophysical and land use information collected since 2004 and coordinate the update of relevant mapping with the City of Nanaimo GIS department ;
- Highlight what has been achieved in meeting the original management objectives and recommendations, and identify gaps and shortfalls in the existing plans implementation;
- Expand the scope of the management plan to include the West Marsh and Valley Oak Parks, while recognizing the unique ownership mandates of the properties; and,
- Provide recommendations for immediate actions for the next three to five years.

Madrone Environmental Services is expected to present a draft plan for review later this fall. In order to receive greater public input, City staff will review the revised plan with both ACES and the Commission and will seek input on the process and the recommendations received.

Respectfully submitted,



Rob Lawrance
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Concurrence by:



Richard Harding
DIRECTOR
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

SURVEY TO GUIDE IMPROVEMENTS TO MAFFEO SUTTON PARK

PLEASE GIVE US SOME IDEA OF WHO YOU ARE AND WHERE YOU ARE FROM
(this will be kept confidential)

How old are you? _____ What gender are you? _____

Where are you from?

City _____ Neighbourhood _____ Postal Code _____

How often do you visit Maffeo Sutton Park?

First time _____ times a day , week or year less than a year _____

How do you usually get to this park?

walk bike bus or car if you come by car, where do you usually park? _____

PLEASE GIVE US SOME IDEA OF WHAT YOU USE THE PARK FOR AND WHY YOU COME HERE

WHAT CAN WE DO TO IMPROVE YOUR USE OF THIS PARK? (if need be use the other side)

CAN WE CONTACT YOU FOR A FOLLOW UP STUDY? (this will be kept confidential)

Name: _____ Contact Information: _____