
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 27, 2003
File No.: 6340-30

To: City Manager

From: Director of Parks & Leisure Services

Subject: Design for Stuart Park and the Downtown Waterfront

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT City Council receive the information as described in the November 27, 2003 report from the Director of Parks & Leisure Services;

AND THAT the City's Park Division be instructed to work with the City's Planning Department and stakeholders in the development of a concept plan for Stuart Park and the downtown waterfront.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Kelowna conducted a design competition for the creation of a concept plan for the downtown waterfront and Stuart Park. After receiving expressions of interest from thirteen teams, three proponents were selected to participate in the competition. A multi-disciplinary jury was established to select a preferred concept plan.

While the jury initially selected the design from Douglas Cardinal Architects, during the process of evaluation staff became aware of a significant urban development that could have a major impact on Stuart Park. As a result, design parameters for Stuart Park are changing and none of the designs presented through the design competition meet the new parameters. We are therefore recommending that the City not contract for the services of any park design consultants at this time.

The recommended approach is to engage the City's Parks Division to prepare a new concept plan for the park. The design work will be coordinated with the City's Planning Department and stakeholders. The Parks Division design team will be led by Andrew Gibbs, the City's Park Design and Construction Supervisor. This approach will allow for the development of an integrated design which takes into account the City's waterfront, park, and urban development objectives. Mr. Gibbs is a professional Landscape Architect with relevant experience in park design and is qualified to take on this challenging assignment. We have reviewed his work program for the next six to nine months and determined that work currently assigned to him can be reassigned as necessary to other staff or consultants, freeing him up to dedicate his time to this important project.

David Graham, Director of Parks & Leisure Services

cc: Director of Planning and Corporate Services
Current Planning Manager
Downtown Waterfront and Stuart Park Design Competition Jury