
City of Kelowna

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 17, 2004

FILES: 0910-20-001
0550-01

TO: City Manager

FROM: Manager Community Development & Real Estate

SUBJECT: WATERFRONT PROPERTY DIRECTION

REPORT PREPARED BY: D.L. SHIPCLARK, MANAGER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & REAL ESTATE

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Report of the Manager of Community Development & Real Estate dated November 17, 2004 be received for the information of Council.

BACKGROUND & COMMENTS:

During the summer of 2004, there was a great deal of discussion in the City about development along the City's downtown waterfront. In particular, a proposed development in the area of Mill Street and Queensway Avenue led to numerous comments about the City selling waterfront land for development and denying public access to the waterfront.

The history of the City's actions in policy, bylaw and land transactions, demonstrates exactly the opposite. Successive City Councils since the first Council's acquisition of City Park in 1908 have demonstrated the City's commitment to expanding public access to the waterfront from City Park to Knox Mountain Park.

Council has adopted, and continues to update, a Park Acquisition Priority Policy and other policies that support the expansion of the City's waterfront land holdings adjacent to existing City waterfront parks. Successive Official Community Plan Bylaws (1995 and 2002) have required all waterfront developments, to any density greater than single-family residential, to dedicate the first 10 metres of the Okanagan Lake foreshore for public access. In addition, successive Councils for the last 99 years have completed in excess of 30 individual waterfront land acquisitions between City Park and Knox Mountain Park. The goal of these acquisitions, together with the policy direction and bylaws adopted by successive City Councils will eventually lead to the public having uninhibited access to Okanagan Lake from City Park to Knox Mountain Park.

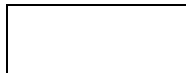
SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

City Council has directed staff that it has no intention of selling off City waterfront property to restrict public access to Okanagan Lake.

Since the acquisition of City Park by the new City of Kelowna in 1908, successive City Councils have adopted policy, bylaws and undertook a series of property acquisitions that will eventually lead to the public having uninhibited access to Okanagan Lake between City Park and Knox Mountain Park.

(Note: City staff have prepared a Power Point presentation for the November 22nd Council Meeting outlining the history of the City's waterfront property acquisitions between City Park and Knox Mountain Park.)

D.L. Shipclark



R.L. (Ron) Mattiussi, ACP, MCIP
Director of Planning & Corporate Services

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