



CULTUS LAKE PARK

REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO BOARD

DATE: October 18, 2017 **FILE:** 0550

SUBMITTED BY: Bonny Bryant
Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: Next Steps – Parking Report Issue

PURPOSE:

Following the community feedback on the Parking Report (March 2017), staff would like to present options for possible next steps.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Cultus Lake Park Board approve the following recommendations:

- *Share Community Feedback document on Parking Report online.*
- *Respond to the 59 questions included in the Community Feedback document and share this information online.*
- *Staff to develop a next steps document that separates the three issues dealing with them in the following order: Residential Parking, Commercial Parking and Parking Lots and this report be presented at the December 13, 2017 Regular Board meeting.*

DISCUSSION:

In early 2017, the Cultus Lake Park Board worked with a consultant to undertake a review of parking in Cultus Lake. The report date is March 2017. The report was drafted and publicly released August 18, 2017. Community feedback on the report was requested by September 5, 2017. In response to community feedback, the deadline for this feedback was extended to September 29, 2017.

The Park Board received a total of 59 e-mail submissions. They addressed commercial and residential parking in response to the Parking Review report. The residential parking components received substantially more feedback than those regarding commercial parking. There were 16 responses on commercial parking and 57 on residential parking, with some submissions addressing both. The report on community feedback has been broken into two main areas – residential and commercial. Submissions have been edited for context, length, clarity and civility.

Several submissions cited concerns regarding the complexity of the report, which stakeholders had been contacted and interviewed, and which studies or reports had informed the report. In addition, the short time frame to review the document was mentioned several times. This was addressed through an extension to the submission deadline.

The Opportunity

The submissions to the Park Board were thoughtful, provided feedback on the report, and offered suggestions and ideas for solutions. The responses were substantial – some were more than two pages in length. Parking in Cultus Lake is important to those who are leaseholders, as well as to visitors to the area. The Park Board has an opportunity to continue community engagement by proactively seeking ideas and feedback regarding the parking situation.

There appears to be some confusion over elements of the report and over specifics of how parking works in residential and commercial settings at Cultus Lake. This is evidenced by the 50 questions that ask for clarification or require more detail regarding specific situations.

Continued engagement regarding parking provides the ability for the Board and staff to increase their understanding of the complicated parking situation in Cultus Lake from residents' and visitors' perspectives. Cultus Lake is in a unique situation and a one-size-fits-all solution is not likely to work for this community. Continued engagement will assist in defining a nuanced and effective solution to the parking issue.

In addition, continued community engagement shows the commitment of the Board to strengthen its relationship with members of the community. When a community consistently sees a Board that reaches out to solicit feedback and that takes that input seriously, it builds a strong foundation of two-way trust.

Next Steps

Participants (and all community members) in any engagement process should be provided with the information gathered to date. This could be done by uploading the feedback document and appendices to the website.

In the submissions, a recommendation was made by several individuals for a town hall-style meeting. This would be a useful next step – and one that would require a strategy that would allow a meeting to address each of the specific elements of commercial and residential parking and potential solutions.

Once a town hall meeting is held, a communications piece providing an overview of key information gathered at that meeting would be appropriate.

The next communications piece would be a follow-up by the Board. This would outline the key elements that they are considering and clearly define what the immediate and longer-term next steps are – and how much input the community will have in their final decision.

Having the Board unilaterally decide on any one solution (with any issue or potential large-scale change) is not recommended. Cultus Lake residents have shown that they are interested in what is being done in their community. They have made it clear that they appreciate being provided the opportunity to submit their feedback and suggestions – and that they are thoughtful and engaged with this process.

As we are now in the fall season, there is an opportunity to continue the dialogue with the community, which would allow them to be involved with the process as the Board narrows down its options and comes to decisions that are best for the overall community.

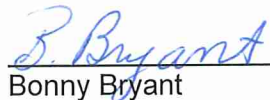
Staff recommends that the Park Board approve the following recommendations:

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STRATEGIC PLAN:

This report supports the Board's Strategic Plan Initiative of a Parking Review.

Prepared and approved for submission to the Board:



Bonny Bryant
Chief Administrative Officer