



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: January 30, 2006
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RTS No.: 5233
CC File No.: 13-4000-30
Meeting Date: February 14, 2006

TO: Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic

FROM: General Manager of Engineering Services in consultation with the Director of City Plans

SUBJECT: Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway
500 block of East 23rd Avenue

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve the closure to vehicular access of the mid-block portion of the 500 block of East 23rd Avenue for the Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway;
- B. THAT Council approve the construction of the Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway as detailed in this report at an estimated cost of \$305,000 and funding to be provided from existing capital as follows:
 - \$200,000 from 2003 Street Basic Capital for Greenways
 - \$65,000 from 2004 Street Basic Capital for Greenways
 - \$40,000 from 2004 Streets Basic Capital for Street Beautification and Street Trees;
- C. THAT Council approve an increase of \$13,200 for maintenance costs to the Engineering Operating Budget, without offset, beginning in 2007 and subject to an annual budget review.

COUNCIL POLICY

In July 1995, Council approved the Vancouver Greenways Plan. This plan supports the development of neighbourhood greenways to improve local connections and promote community building.

The Vancouver Transportation Plan (1997) indicates an order of transportation priorities that places the highest priority on pedestrians.

The Riley Park/South Cambie Community Vision approved by Council in October 2005 notes that residents should initiate neighbourhood greenways on frequently used pedestrian and biking routes within the area.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for the construction of the Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway including a pedestrian-oriented community space and pathway in the 500 block of East 23rd Avenue.

BACKGROUND

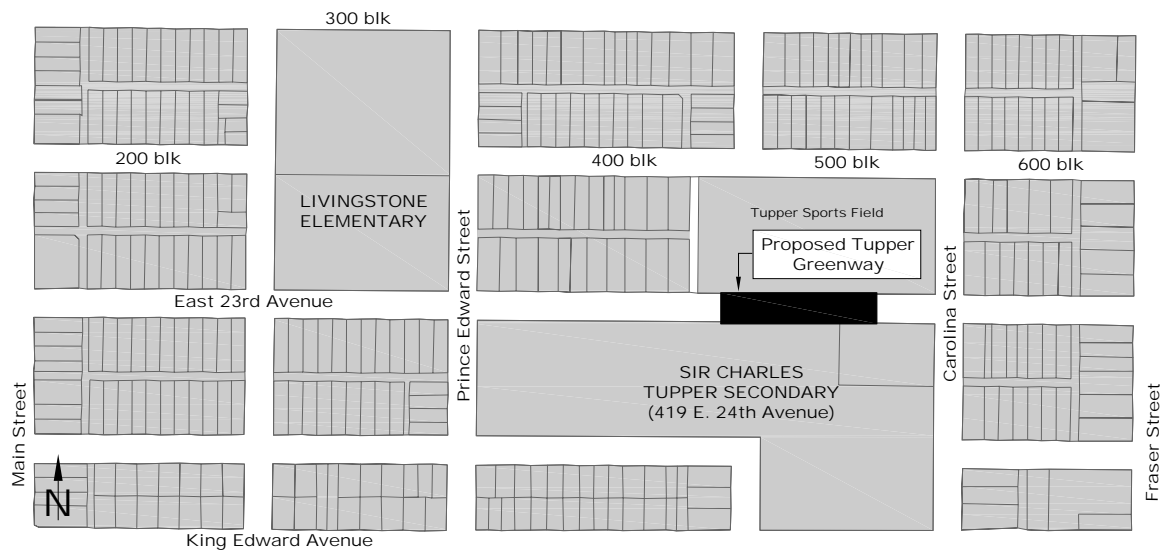
In July 1995, Council adopted the Vancouver Greenways Plan. The plan included neighbourhood greenways: smaller scale, community-initiated greenways that enhance local connections and reflect neighbourhood character. The City works with the community and provides advice and assistance with design and implementation when required. There are a number of neighbourhood greenway projects already built or in various stages of development across the city.

In November 2003, Jomar Lanot, a student of Sir Charles Tupper Secondary School was killed outside the school. Following the tragedy, the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) of Tupper Secondary School and the school initiated the "Hope Into Action" Committee and met with students and concerned residents to discuss how to heal the community. The idea of developing a healing garden within a neighbourhood greenway came out of this process.

DISCUSSION

The proposed Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway would be located on a closed portion of East 23rd Avenue between the lane west of Carolina Street to Carolina Street. Tupper Secondary School grounds are located on either side of the proposed greenway. This portion of street was first closed in December 1978 due to speeding concerns and a temporary closure was approved by Council in October 1979. Figure 1 shows the location of the proposed greenway.

Figure 1



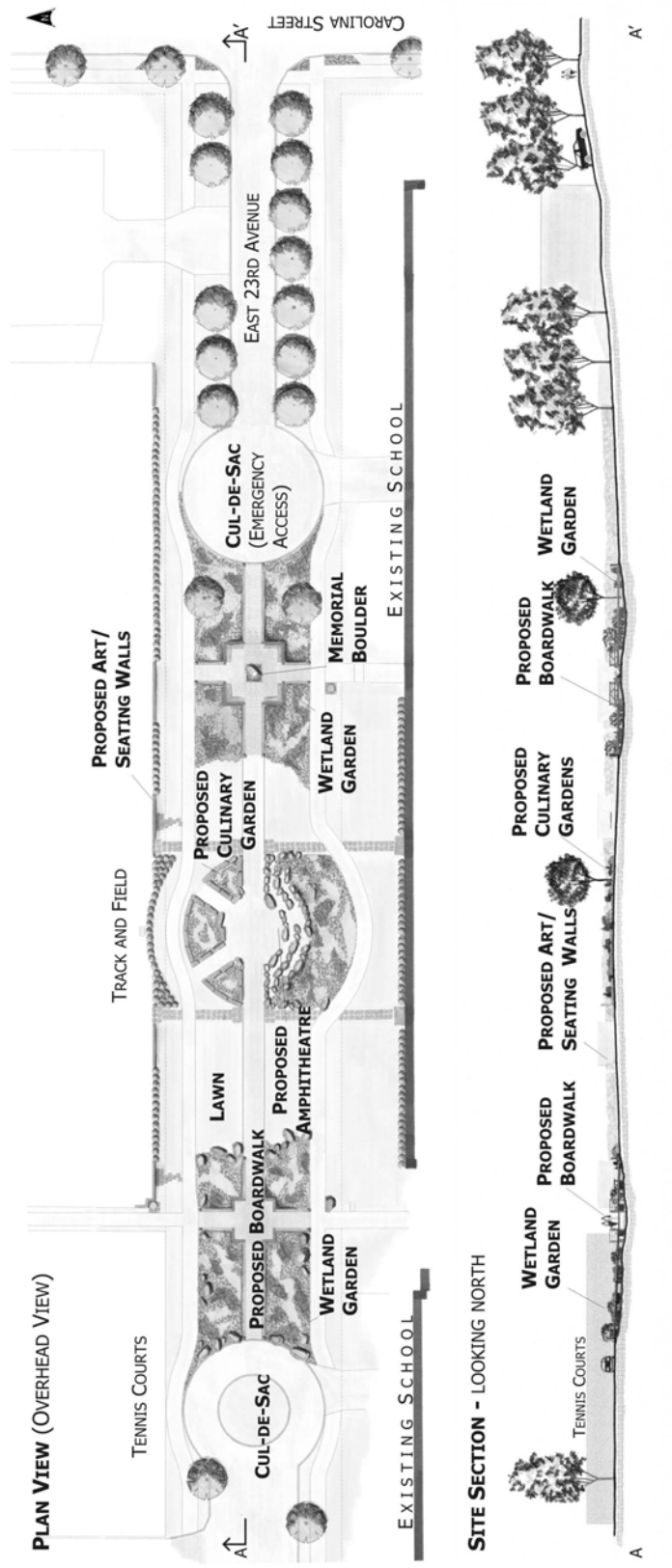
The Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway committee is composed of students, parents and staff from Tupper Secondary School and residents in the community. In September 2004, City staff began meeting with the Committee to start designing the greenway. A series of meetings and a field trip to visit other neighbourhood greenways were held from September 2004 to February 2005.

The proposed greenway design includes a walkway and a contemplative area for the community and the students of Tupper Secondary School. Figure 2 shows a sketch of the greenway design (see Appendix A for a perspective sketch). The design provides for opportunities for student art exhibits and a garden which will provide fresh herbs for the culinary arts program. Space will also be available for outside classes. The central part of the greenway will commemorate Jomar Lanot. This space will also incorporate the school's "ROARS" code of conduct, which is Respect, Ownership, Attitude, Responsibility and Safety in the school and in the community.

Two cul-de-sacs will be constructed on the east and west ends of the greenway to facilitate vehicular turning movements. Walkways will be constructed through the site and marshland plants installed. The central pathway through the contemplative spaces of the greenway will focus on pedestrian movement while the north pathway will also accommodate cyclists. Landscape features and plantings will be located throughout the greenway, with a large rock placed in the centre part of the greenway commemorating Jomar Lanot. Pedestrian features will include seating areas, space for school art installations, and additional street trees.

A City sponsored Open House to display the concept plan was held on May 10, 2005. Neighbourhood residents who attended gave a favourable response to the concept. Invitations to the Open House were delivered to neighbourhood residents bounded by Main Street, Fraser Street, 20th Avenue and King Edward Avenue (see Appendix B for the notification letter and area).

Figure 2



Community involvement is the foundation of all neighbourhood greenways. The Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway is intended to celebrate this. The school will be building in the maintenance of the greenway space into their school curriculum, and will be assisted by interested neighbours and residents. VanDusen Master Gardeners who specialize in the design and maintenance of healing gardens will work with the school and the community on developing and implementing a garden maintenance plan.

If approved, construction of the Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway is planned for 2006.

Traffic Implications

East 23rd Avenue between the lane west of Carolina Street to Carolina Street has been closed to all vehicular traffic since 1979.

There has been no through traffic on the 500 block of East 23rd Avenue for over 26 years, and this proposal makes no change to the existing traffic patterns in the community. Tupper Secondary School has direct vehicular access for parking and loading from Prince Edward Street. East of the closure, the school's mechanic shop has vehicular access from Carolina Street.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total estimated cost to complete the greenway is \$305,000. This cost includes the installation of two cul-de-sacs, pedestrian walkways, landscaping and improved street lighting. Existing funding is available from the 2003-2005 Basic Capital Budget as follows:

- \$200,000 from 2003 Streets Basic Capital - Greenways (order group CB1EA2HX1 order 30006159)
- \$65,000 from 2004 Streets Basic Capital - Greenways (order group CB2EA2HX1 order 30006972)
- \$40,000 from 2004 Streets Basic Capital - Street Beautification and Street Trees (order group CB2EA2FX1 order 30006970).

The long term success of the greenway will require annual maintenance and a corresponding increase to the Operating Budget. Funding increases, without offset, are recommended to the following Operating Budgets beginning in 2007 and subject to an annual review:

- \$12,000 to the Streets Operating Budget for horticultural and structure maintenance
- \$1,100 to the Electrical Operating Budget for street lighting maintenance
- \$100 to the Traffic Operating Budget for traffic sign maintenance

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

A neighbourhood greenway in this location will have many environmental benefits including the reduction of storm water runoff by removing the asphalt surface and replacing it with permeable materials, an increase in vegetation which serves as a local carbon sink, and better accommodation of pedestrians in support of non-vehicular modes of transportation.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway will provide social benefits to the local community. It will be a contemplative space that will be welcoming to students and to pedestrians using this portion of East 23rd Avenue to access the school from Prince Edward and Carolina Streets. With its healing garden design and the emphasis on celebration of the human spirit, it will also serve to help students and the community come to terms with the tragic death of a student. With its space designed for outside classrooms and its culinary garden, students will use and access the space throughout the year. It is intended that the Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway will become a space for community celebration.

CONCLUSION

The Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway will celebrate the human spirit and commemorate the tragic death of Jomar Lanot, a student from Tupper Secondary School. It will provide a meeting place between the school and community where the school can showcase art, use the space for school events, and celebrate the importance of community with neighbours and pedestrians.

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Perspective Sketch of the Proposed Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway (looking east)



Notification Letter



CITY OF VANCOUVER
ENGINEERING SERVICES
T.R. Timm, P. Eng., General Manager

April 27, 2005

Dear Resident/Business Owner:

Re: TUPPER NEIGHBOURHOOD GREENWAY OPEN HOUSE

You are invited to an open house to view and discuss the proposed design for the Tupper Neighbourhood Greenway. The greenway will be located in the closed portion of East 23rd Avenue between Carolina Street and the lane west of Carolina (see map below). Neighbourhood greenways are small-scale green connections that are initiated and supported by the community.

This greenway project has been developed by a community group, which includes teachers and students of Sir Charles Tupper Secondary School, residents and city staff. We would like your input, comments, and ideas to finalize the design.

The Open House will be:

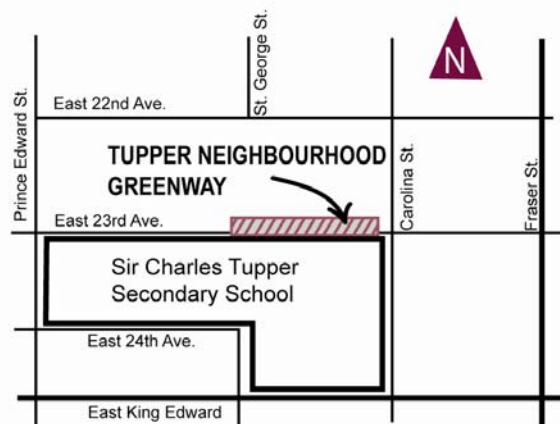
Tuesday, May 10th from 3:00 - 8:00pm
Sir Charles Tupper Secondary School
Library, Room 312
419 East 24th Avenue
Refreshments will be served.

For more background information on this greenway or on the Greenways program, please visit our website:
<http://vancouver.ca/greenways>

Or contact:

Linda Chow, Greenways Engineering at
604.873.7305 (linda.chow@vancouver.ca)

Sandy James, Greenways Planning at
604.873.7679 (sandy.james@vancouver.ca)



Best wishes,

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This notice contains important information which may affect you. Please ask someone to translate it for you.

此通告刊載有可能影響閣下的重要資料。請找人為你翻譯。

ਇਸ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਵਿਚ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਕਿ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੋ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਉਲੱਥਾ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਆਖੋ।

Thông báo này có tin tức quan trọng có thể ảnh hưởng đến quý vị. Xin nhờ người phiên dịch hộ.

Este aviso contiene información importante que puede afectarle personalmente. Pídale a alguien que se lo traduzca.

Ce document contient des renseignements importants qui pourraient vous concerner. Veuillez demander à quelqu'un de vous le traduire.

Notification Area

