

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE
COMMISSION **DATE:** 2021 August 17

FROM: DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION &
CULTURAL SERVICES **FILE:** 54000-20

SUBJECT: SPRAY PARK FACILITY IN CAMERON PARK

PURPOSE: To provide information regarding the spray park in Cameron Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** this report be received for information.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be provided to Ms. Theresa Ginn.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

At the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting of 2021 July 13, Ms. Ginn appeared as a delegation to express concerns of noise generated by the spray park facility in Cameron Park. Commission requested a report with further information on the topic. This report provides background on the public consultation and design consideration that informed the placement of the facilities in the park and mitigation measures that have been taken to reduce the noise impacts to Ms. Ginn.

2.0 POLICY SECTION

Goal

- An Inclusive Community
 - Serve a diverse community –
Ensure City services fully meet the needs of our dynamic community
 - Create a sense of community –
Provide opportunities that encourage and welcome all community members and create a sense of belonging

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- A Healthy Community
 - Healthy life –
Encourages opportunities for healthy living and well-being
- A Dynamic Community
 - City facilities and infrastructure –
Build and maintain infrastructure that meets the needs of our growing community

3.0 BACKGROUND

Cameron Park is a district level park providing recreation opportunities to the northwest quadrant of the City. The recreation centre established in 1988 was developed first and adjoining park spaces were improved and added over time from 2000 to 2021.

The planned layout for the play area, including the splash pad, was presented to the public and discussed in a series of three open houses in 2010. The final plan was presented and adopted by the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission and Council in 2014.

Through the design process, various locations for development of a collection of play features were discussed. The factors influencing the placement of facilities in the park were centered around preservation of the trees in the centre of the park (intended to avoid tree removals and tree root compaction), respecting underground water line locations, separation from vehicular traffic along the park periphery, and connection to the trail system to provide universal access.

The western edge of the forest area was seen as a suitable location meeting these criteria. The play area including the splash pad was then laid out in the open space, between the forest and the parks' western perimeter, with a maximum separation between the play features and the houses along the western edge. A planted buffer edge was also installed between the play elements and the neighbors to the west.

Current Activity

The water play area has been very successful and well received by the children during hot summer months. The issue of noise brought to us by Ms. Ginn has been explored and alterations have been made to the site. Additional buffer planting was installed along the park edges and a slide in the play area was relocated to reduce the concentration of noise. The water play hours of operation were adjusted to an earlier closing time of 8 p.m.

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Summary

The community support for outdoor play facilities and the specific configuration within Cameron Park has been vetted through public consultation and supported by the community at large. There have been site alterations made to mitigate noise. However, noise from active play cannot be completely eliminated.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

The ongoing development of facilities for recreation purposes in Cameron Park will include a community recreation centre and pool. There will be significant changes to the park and significant periods of construction including additional noise. Staff will endeavour to control the noise throughout these active periods of change. The long term plan will include both indoor and outdoor water play areas that will serve the northeast quadrant of Burnaby.



Dave Ellenwood
DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

HE:tc