



**To:** Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee      **Date:** May 12, 2010  
**From:** Dave Semple  
General Manager, Parks and Recreation      **File:** 06-2345-20-  
BT01/Vol 01  
**Re:** Thompson Youth Park Contribution Agreement

**Staff Recommendation**

1. That the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Parks and Recreation be authorized to finalize and execute an Agreement with the Thompson Community Association for a \$250,000 contribution to fund Phase 1 of the Thompson Youth Park."
2. That a letter be sent on behalf of the City to the Thompson Community Association thanking them for their financial contribution to the park project.

Dave Semple  
General Manager, Parks and Recreation  
(604-233-3350)

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<b>ROUTED TO:</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE</b>		<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>
Law	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>REVIEWED BY TAG</b>	YES	NO	<b>REVIEWED BY CAO</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

## Staff Report

### Origin

At the February 8, 2010 Council Meeting, the following resolutions were adopted:

*That:*

- 1. The Thompson Youth Park Concept be endorsed as described in the staff report dated January 5, 2010 entitled "Proposed Youth Park at Burnett Thompson Community Park";*
- 2. Staff be authorized to negotiate a Contribution Agreement with the Thompson Community Association for \$250,000 to support Phase 1 development of the Thompson Youth Park; and*
- 3. Staff be directed to conduct a public consultation process for the Thompson Youth Park which includes the general public, youth and residents in the Thompson neighbourhood.*

### Analysis

Staff have been working with the Thompson Community Association Board on the details of the Contribution Agreement. A draft agreement has been reviewed by the Board and by staff and it has been forwarded to the City's Law Department for finalization. The agreement establishes the terms by which the Association's contribution will be allocated to the construction Phase 1 of the Youth Park. The terms are as follows:

- The Thompson Community Association will contribute a maximum of \$250,000 for the construction of Phase 1 of the Youth Park Plan.
- The City will construct the improvements and monitor the installation of playground equipment to ensure conformance with the plan.
- The City will own and maintain the works.

Further to the agreement, work is continuing on the project. Two public information sessions were held on April 28, 2010 to solicit comments on the details of Phase 1 and on the direction of the future phases. A total of 35 people attended and the comments were overwhelmingly supportive of both Phase 1 and the future phases of the Youth Park. Two attendees expressed concern about ongoing noise concerns they have due to their proximity to Blair Elementary School and the park. Approximately half of the attendees were youth or young adults and the general response was enthusiasm for the kinds of activities and play elements proposed.

Construction of Phase 1 will begin in mid-August and is anticipated to be complete by the end of September, 2010. Subsequent to that, detailed design of the future phases will be complete and further public consultation will occur prior to the start of the next phase of construction.

### Financial Impact

The City receives a \$250,000 benefit towards the Thompson Youth Park Phase 1 Construction once the Agreement has been completed.

### **Conclusion**

The City will continue to work with the Thompson Community Association to implement the Youth Park Plan. The level of enthusiastic support from area residents is a strong indicator that a youth park in Burnett/Thompson Community Park will be well received and well used. Upon the execution of the Contribution Agreement, the funding for Phase 1 will be in place and the project will proceed to completion by the end September, 2010.

Jamie Esko  
Park Planner, Parks Planning and Design  
(604-233-3341)

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