

## CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

Staff Report to the Regional Planning Committee  
Meeting of Wednesday, February 20, 2002

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### **SUBJECT:**

Requests for Information from CRD Parks

### **BACKGROUND:**

- Oct. 24, 2001: The Board reviews comments received on the pre-bylaw referral of the Proposed Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) and recommendations for revision from Regional Planning Committee (RPC). The Board directs Regional Planning Services Department (RPS) to prepare a draft RGS bylaw for review by Committee of the Whole early in 2002. The Board resolution requests responses from CRD Parks to RPC on three issues raised in the pre-bylaw referral.
- Jan. 25, 2002: The Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (IAC) and the Inter-Municipal Planning Advisory Committee (IMPAC) passed a unanimous resolution requesting the Board to give the draft regional growth strategy bylaw 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading (Attachment A: Minutes of Jan 25/02 meeting).
- Feb. 6, 2002: Parks Committee reviews a report from CRD Parks on the Board's October 24, 2001 referral and passes a resolution to forward the report to RPC.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The CRD Parks Committee report included in Attachment A, responds to the issues referred on October 24, 2001 by the Board that had been raised during the pre-bylaw referral of the proposed RGS. The three issues the report addresses are:

1. Development of the proposed trail system from Sooke to Port Renfrew ;
2. The future of the Regional Green/Blue Spaces Strategy (RGBSS); and,
3. Greenway corridor connection from southeast urban core to the Regional Green Space Network.

The report proposes the initiation of a five-year update of the Regional Green/Blue Spaces Strategy in 2003, to be jointly co-ordinated by CRD Parks, Regional Planning Services (RPS) and the Provincial Capital Commission. The proposed review of the RGBSS in 2003 is timely for two reasons. Five years will have passed since the approval of the RGBSS by the Board in November 1997 and a number of implementation measures have been completed. The RGBSS vision has also been incorporated in many significant respects into the RGS, which under the

current schedule, will have been adopted in 2002. Undertaking a review of the RGBSS will determine if the implementation measures have been successful, if new initiatives to further the vision are required, or if the RGBSS can be considered a completed initiative.

With regard to project leadership, the inclusion of significant RGBSS elements in the RGS requires RPS participation in the project to review the RGBSS. However, project leadership should be provided by CRD Parks and the Provincial Capital Commission as the initial lead agencies, with RPS serving a advisory and support role, and providing a partial share of the project funding.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Regional Planning Committee:

1. Receive this report and the February 6, 2002 CRD Parks report in Attachment A for information; and,
2. Direct Regional Planning Services to work with CRD Parks and the Provincial Capital Commission in the development of a project workplan and budget for the five-year review of the Regional Green/Blue Spaces Strategy for presentation to Regional Planning Committee in the 2003 budget review.

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Mark Hornell, MCIP  
Director - Regional Planning Services

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:**

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W.M. Jordan, Executive Director  
Attachments