

Attachment #1

Commemorative Park Process and Concept

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The site at 824 Agnes Street (also known as 825 Victoria Street), which was formerly owned by the Chinese Benevolent Association (CBA), was a focal point for the Chinese community in New Westminster. It was gifted to the City by the CBA in 1979. The site has been included on a list of the top ten most endangered sites by the New Westminster Heritage Preservation Society and considered for Provincial recognition as a Chinese Canadian Historic Place by Heritage BC.

In 2009, as part of a Downtown Nuisance Abatement Strategy, this site was converted into a temporary off leash dog area. Through the Chinese Reconciliation Process, a consultation and visioning exercise was undertaken. City advisory committees, associations representing the Chinese community, and the public identified the space should be used for a park commemorating Chinese history and contributions, which would also provide a green space and refuge in the densely populated Downtown neighbourhood.

A master plan for the proposed commemorative park and adjacent interior community amenity space has been developed in parallel with the applications on the adjacent subject sites. The preferred design concept for the park was endorsed by Council on August 31, 2020. An image of the concept endorsed by Council is included below and the report to Council can be accessed at:

<https://pub-newwestcity.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=2642#page=39>



824 Agnes St Council Endorsed Design Concept