



Spirit Square Development Begins

For Immediate Release

January 22, 2009- Construction of the Maffeo Sutton Park ‘Spirit Square’ will begin Monday, January 26th. Construction is expected to be complete mid- May 2009. While every effort will be made to minimize disturbance to park users, it is expected that there will be some changes to access during construction. The site will be fenced and alternative parking and pedestrian circulation will be signed.

Over time, Maffeo Sutton Park has developed from an industrial site into a destination urban waterfront park. In February 2008, Nanaimo was awarded a grant from the provincial government for \$500,000.00 for the development of a ‘Spirit Square’. This funding allowed for existing park improvement plans place to begin. The development of the ‘Spirit Square’ is the first phase of planned improvements.

The ‘Spirit Square’ is located near the entrance to the park, adjunct to Cliff Street and covers approximately one third of the park site. It will provide a large multi purpose plaza for special event use, enhanced park access, and improved routes for pedestrians, cyclists, the physically challenged, as well as service and emergency vehicles. A structure will be the focus of the plaza and will feature interpretive information about the history of the site and downtown.

This initial development will also include all underground infrastructure required for future development of the entire park (including water, sewer, drainage, and electrical infrastructure). The phase 1 ‘Spirit Square’ project was approved by City Council on January 12th, 2009. Detailed information about the project is available on the City website www.nanaimo.ca.

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Media Contact:

Kirsty MacDonald
Parks and Open Space Planner
City of Nanaimo
250 755 7506
Kirsty.macdonald@nanaimo.ca