

Petition to save Quayside sub

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Always a champion for kids fun, Spider-Man—or a New Westminster resident dressed just like the superhero—was one of 230 people who signed a petition at the Quayside Boardwalk Festival and Sale last weekend to save the Quayside Park, also known as the Children's Submarine Park.

The “villain” in this battle is a cycling and pedestrian bridge to Queensborough that city hall plans to build in the next few years. The bridge could ruin the park if it is built too close to it on Third Avenue, according to Quayside resident Ted Eddy, whose petition to save the park from being “displaced or impinged by other development” has been in circulation for a couple of years and boasts a total of 840 signatures.

“(The park) is the only amenity in the Quayside community and we don't want our children and grandchildren to have to go outside of the community to another park at their inconvenience,” said Eddy in an email to the NewsLeader.

The park is dubbed the “Children's Submarine Park” because a submarine from an Expo '86 sculpture inspires the theme of its play area.

“The park would be in the shadow of this bridge,” said Eddy.

He added that having a bridge right above a children's play area is dangerous “unless they put extra money and put caging around it, which would make it even uglier. There are malicious people who like to throw rocks.”

City councillor Jonathan Cote said in a phone interview that the bridge was still at the conceptual stage of planning and that an exact location had not been chosen for it yet.

“We're not quite at the level of development to know exactly what it will impact, but certainly if there is an impact on the park there is a potential to move the park” said Cote. “I know that there are some concerns but overall it will enhance the Quayside and Queensborough areas. It's important to work through some of the issues that might arise but it's an incredibly important structure.”