

9. Re: Letter - Mr. and Mrs. Stroh, 9573 Cameron Street  
Proposed Apartment Complex - Cameron Street and Erickson Drive  
Lot 1, D.L. 4, Plan 23581

Appearing on the Agenda for the May 8, 1972, Council meeting is a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Stroh concerning their opposition to a proposed apartment complex at the subject location.

The Planning Director advises that the proposed complex will increase traffic volumes and parking demands in the area. However, the site is bounded on three sides by roads, thereby permitting a dispersed pattern of vehicle access as well as providing for a considerable area available to accommodate street parking in excess of that provided on the site. The parking and traffic problems of this site were studied intensively both in the preparation of the Community Plan for the area and in the examination of the applicant's development, and it was felt that the development would present no problem in this area.

The only additional service required as a direct result of the proposed project will be sidewalks. The costs will be borne by the developer. Certain costs will be accrued as a result of general population growth in this area. However, these costs will have to be weighed against the economic and social advantages to be derived from a viable Town Centre in this area.

Mr. and Mrs. Stroh expressed a concern about the Fire Department's capability to effectively fight fires in high rise apartment complexes. The Fire Chief acknowledges that the Fire Department has limited experience in this area, but advises that a significant amount of the Department's training program during the past several years has been directed to combating fires and saving lives in this type of structure.

Fire Department personnel have acquired considerable knowledge on the extinguishing of fires in high rise complexes through discussions with counterparts who have this type of experience, and through the study of numerous documents which are available on this subject. Department personnel are thoroughly familiar with and trained in the basic procedures concerning fire fighting conditions in high rise buildings (the procedures have been recorded in a manual which has been issued to every employee). Personnel also conduct periodic inspections in all multi-storied structures and record and update pertinent information including location, condition of standpipe systems, siamese pumper connections, air circulation systems shut off switches, etc.

It should also be noted that "in-building" fire fighting equipment is required in all buildings over eight stories high.

In summary, the Burnaby Fire Department is thoroughly trained and fully capable of effectively fighting fires in high rise buildings, despite its lack of practical experience in this particular field.

The matter of the traffic problem has been referred to Traffic Safety Committee but the Committee will not be meeting for some time. This is merely a progress report.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT this subject be tabled pending the submittal of a related report from the Traffic Safety Committee; and

THAT a copy of this Report be forwarded to Mr. and Mrs. Stroh.