

16. Re: 1973 Annual Budget

There are a number of significant changes to be made in the Annual Budget.

The first relates to Council's decision to increase the rates applicable to sewer parcel taxes and metered accounts. For 1973, flat rates will yield approximately \$104,670 more than shown in the Budget and metered charges will increase by approximately \$21,000 - a total of \$125,670. This represents .1425 mills of taxation. The tax levy can be reduced by this sum.

The Quintuplet Aerial truck ordered for delivery in 1973 will not arrive until Autumn 1974. Therefore, the 16 firemen slated to come on duty 1 October will not be needed. This will cause a reduction in the Annual Budget of \$34,300.

The recently announced increase in Social Assistance allowances will cost Burnaby approximately \$265,588 annually. However, as the increase will be effective 1 June, the increased cost for 1973 will be only \$185,912. This will be further reduced by a credit of \$153,393 which was an overcharge for the Provincial fiscal year ending 31 March 1973. Therefore, the net increase in 1973 will approximate \$32,518, roughly offsetting the decrease in fire costs.

Finally, in the Contribution to Capital in the Budget there appears the sum of \$484,000 for a proposed major route connecting Coquitlam and northeast Burnaby along the scutherly slope of Burnaby Mountain to North Road.

This project has been before us for some time. However, a consultant is at work on this project and it does not seem likely that construction can commence before 1974. In the meantime, two other projects of great concern are before us. They are: land acquisition for the extension of Nelson Avenue from Marine Drive to Marine Way at an estimated cost of \$175,000, and land acquisition for the extension of Beaverbrook Drive to Cameron Road at an estimated cost of \$415,000. In connection with the latter, traffic patterns in the area are such that this project appears most desirable indeed. Further, there is need of an additional \$6,000 for the Moscrop extension to Percival land acquisition account.

As a consequence, the following changes to the Budget are recommended:

Deletion of provision for proposed major route		\$ 484,000
Addition of:		
Nelson Avenue extension - land acquisition	\$ 175,000	
Moscrop-Percival extension - land acquisition	6,000	
Beaverbrook Drive extension - land acquisition	303,000	\$ 484,000

The balance of funds required for the Beaverbrook extension will have to be found in 1974.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT this report be referred to the Budget discussions to be held on April 17, 1973.