

ITEM 20

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 29

COUNCIL MEETING Apr. 16/73

20. Re: Letter dated April 6, 1973 from Pacific Air Conditioning Ltd.
3046 Lougheed Highway, Port Coquitlam, B. C.
Airlift of Equipment by Helicopter

Appearing on the Agenda for the April 16, 1973 meeting of Council is a request from Pacific Air Conditioning Ltd. for approval to use a helicopter in lifting heating and air conditioning equipment to the roof of the Woodward's Warehouse under construction at 3550 Brighton Avenue.

The Department of Transport informs us that the firm providing helicopter service to Pacific Air Conditioning Ltd. must, as a prerequisite to receiving a temporary heliport licence, provide D.O.T. with such information as dates and times of anticipated flights, flight paths and other pertinent data and, in addition, must produce written evidence of the Municipality's approval to operate the helicopter within the Municipality.

The requirement for Municipal approval arises out of concern for public safety along the flight path but during, essentially, the use of the helicopter at the construction site when traffic and crowd control might conceivably be required. It is, apparently, a usual requirement for the helicopter firm to alert the local police force one hour before lift operations commence at the site.

A secondary reason for Municipal approval is felt to be necessary to keep the Municipality informed as to sources of noise that could give rise to complaints, and to prevent operations from taking place at inappropriate times.

In that it is anticipated that requests for air lifting by means of helicopter will increase in frequency with time, Council might consider, under circumstances where time is of the essence, granting approval to the Mayor or the Municipal Manager to authorize future helicopter flights made for purposes similar to those intended by Pacific Air Conditioning Ltd. without the need to refer all such requests to Council for approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT, subject to approval of the Department of Transport, and notification to the Corporation of the dates and times of intended flights, and the Contractor, the Helicopter firm, and their servants agreeing to indemnify the Municipality in the event of any action against the Municipality arising out of such approval, approval be granted to Pacific Air Conditioning Ltd. to use a helicopter in lifting heating and air conditioning equipment to the roof of the Woodward's Warehouse under construction at 3550 Brighton Avenue, Burnaby; and

THAT, under circumstances where time is of the essence and approval cannot be obtained of Council, approval be granted to the Mayor or the Municipal Manager to authorize future helicopter flights made for purposes similar to those currently intended by Pacific Air Conditioning Ltd. without the need to refer all such requests to Council for approval.