

ITEM 1

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 21

COUNCIL MEETING Mar. 24/75

Re: Inquiry raised at Council Meeting of March 10, 1975  
Fire Apparatus Delay at Railroad Crossing  
Sperling Avenue

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At the Municipal Council meeting of March 10, 1975, an inquiry was raised in connection with a delay on March 10 experienced by fire apparatus at the Sperling Avenue railroad crossing.

The following is the report of the Fire Chief, dated March 13, 1975, in this connection:

"At 1649 hrs, March 10th, 1975, this Department received a call to a serious multiple vehicle accident at Bell Avenue & Lougheed Highway.

Normal response to this type of call, in this area, would be No.6 Pumper from No.6 Firehall at Brighton & Government Road. However, due to the serious nature of the call, Rescue 1 and No.1 Pumper were dispatched from No.1 Firehall as well.

When these vehicles arrived at the Burlington Northern Railway level crossing at Sperling Avenue it was blocked by a train, and the Captain in charge estimates they were held up from two to three minutes until the train passed by. In the interim the crew of No.6 Pumper had arrived on the scene, surveyed the situation and cancelled out Rescue 1 and No.1 Pumper.

Response districts, North and South, are as far as possible, divided by the Burlington Northern right of way to overcome "hold-up" problems for first response to any alarm.

We have been advised by the Railway Dispatcher that approximately thirty-five mainline and thirty-five switch trains pass through Burnaby every twenty-four hours.



W. F. Collum  
CHIEF OF FIRE DEPARTMENT."

This is for the information of Council.