

Re: REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITIONAL POLICE VEHICLES

The lack of sufficient police vehicles at Burnaby has been a problem for the past several years. In 1975, a survey was conducted by the local R.C.M.P. Detachment which established that the shortage in vehicles was resulting in a loss factor in excess of \$100,000 per annum in wasted manhours. The factors studied were the number of hours when personnel had to double-up in police cars because no other police vehicles were available, the number of hours police personnel had to wait in the office for a patrol vehicle to become available, the number of hours involved in members returning from the field to pick up members to double up because of the unavailability of cars, and the time spent by members searching for cars from other sections because of the unavailability of cars in their section.

The survey results were sent to R.C.M.P. Headquarters who agreed with the immediate need for an increase in vehicular strength. At that time, however, the 1976/77 estimates had been submitted to the Treasury Board and the additional vehicles were programmed for delivery in the 1977/78 fiscal year. It should also be noted that 3 additional vehicles had been approved some time ago for 1976/77.

The Officer-in-Charge of the R.C.M.P. is now in receipt of a telex informing him that the Treasury Board is able to advance funds for 15 additional vehicles to be supplied in the fiscal year commencing April 1, 1976; however, because the new contract is being calculated on actual costing, the Board wants the Municipality to be advised of its planning because the cost figure formerly had not been included in the estimated figures previously released in correspondence to the Municipality. Confirmation of receipt of this information and Council's acceptance of the proposal is therefore needed in writing in order for Headquarters to proceed with acquisition and delivery of whatever number of vehicles are required up to the maximum allowable number of 15, together with the 3 already approved but not yet delivered.

Although any additional expenditures would be added to the 1976/77 funding, the Municipal costing factor would not be affected until the 1977/78 fiscal year since figures are calculated on the year previous. Any acquisition would therefore not require adjustments to the 1976 Municipal Budget.

The Burnaby Detachment currently has 46 police cars and 5 motorcycles deployed as follows:

Community Policing Branch	20
General Investigation Section	8
Identification Section	2
Pool (Administration, Crime Prevention Unit) - seconded from General Investigation Section	2
Provost (prisoner escort, cartage and handy vehicle)	1
Crime Prevention Unit	1
Police Service Dog Section	2
Traffic Section (motorcycles)	5 *
Traffic Section (cars)	9
Drug Section (not provided by Municipality)	1

\*Motorcycles are not all weather vehicles and cannot be depended upon for use on all shifts.

Upon being advised that the Treasury Board is prepared to proceed with the funding of up to 15 vehicles, and considering the 3 vehicles expected to arrive shortly, the Manager and the Officer-in-Charge evaluated existing conditions to determine the minimum increase that is required for optimum deployment of personnel while at the same time recognizing the need to remain within the financial constraints that have been imposed by Council.