

ITEM	37
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	48
COUNCIL MEETING	July 19/76

Re: DELEGATION - LETTER DATED JUNE 30, 1976 FROM MR. L.E. BARCLAY,
W.B. HOLDINGS, 4641 BYRNE ROAD REGARDING WEED CONTROL IN THE
FRONTING DITCH

Appearing on the agenda for the Council meeting of July 19, 1976 is a copy of a letter dated June 30, 1976 from Mr. L.E. Barclay, W.B. Holdings, 4641 Byrne Road in which Mr. Barclay asks to appear as a delegation to discuss a problem with weed control in a ditch running parallel to Byrne Road and in front of his plant.

The following is the report of the Municipal Engineer dated July 15, 1976 in this connection.

The repeated phone calls to the Engineering Department as noted by Mr. Barclay are a fact, but it is not a question of the staff not returning them. The particular problem on Byrne Road is a very difficult one as the Engineer states and it did require a great deal of discussion. Even now we do not have the answer, except we do not feel that our landscaping standards should be changed. In the long run we will sooner or later have to resolve the question of boulevard maintenance in this Municipality. The problem of the ditches on Byrne Road however are a special problem in themselves, and it is not likely that they will be a priority item when we ultimately recommend some solution to the maintenance problem of boulevards generally.

This is for the information of Council.

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15 July, 1976

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM: MUNICIPAL ENGINEER
SUBJECT: BOULEVARD ON WEST SIDE OF BYRNE ROAD
FRONTING 4641 BYRNE ROAD
(LETTER DATED 30 JUNE, 1976 FROM C-B SUPPLIES LIMITED)

Concerning the comments made in Mr. Barclay's second paragraph about the time delay we would like to advise Council that we lack a straight-forward, clear policy on the specific subject of boulevard improvements, particularly on properties such as the subject one where improvements are extremely costly because of the large ditch on the west side of Byrne Road; in fact, the boulevard fronting 4641 Byrne Road is almost totally occupied by the large ditch. We also sought ways and means of discovering a practicable solution within very strict budget limitations, but were not successful in so doing and, in fact, we consulted with the Parks Department on this aspect. Because of the close proximity to the Fraser River and the major watercourse at Byrne Road, the use of any type of chemicals for control of growth of grass and weeds was completely out of the question. After thorough investigation, we advised Mr. Barclay that there was no economical manner in which we could carry out boulevard improvements in this area.

The sides of the ditch have heavy growth of a variety of shrub materials, grass and weeds. It would be a very large undertaking to maintain such boulevards in a reasonable appearing condition and there does not seem to be any practicable way to prevent weeds from spreading on the adjacent property.

In order to effect a "cut-off point" at or near the property line in the west side of the large ditch, we would need to undertake improvements which would cost anywhere from \$7,000 to \$25,000 for just the boulevard of 4641 Byrne Road. Needless to say, the relatively modest sum in our boulevard maintenance account would never look after expenditures of such a magnitude, and of course we would necessarily have to treat everyone alike.

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The area on the east side of Byrne Road, to which Mr. Barclay refers in his letter, was an industrial subdivision recently completed and that particular area was completely storm sewered by, and at the expense of, the developer.

This is for the information of Council.

EEO Olson
MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

EEO:cmg