

ITEM	2
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	62
COUNCIL MEETING	Oct. 4/76

Re: LETTER FROM MR. J. E. KEAYS THAT APPEARED ON THE AGENDA
FOR THE SEPTEMBER 7, 1976 MEETING OF COUNCIL (ITEM 5f)
ANIMAL CONTROL

Appearing on the September 7th agenda was a letter from Mr. J. E. Keays regarding a suggestion that owners of dogs be "responsible for the removal of their animals' defecations on public and private property or face prosecution which could result in the owners being penalized". Following is a report from the Chief ~~Public Health~~ ^{Licence} Inspector on this matter.

The Chief Public Health Inspector concurs with the recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a by-law requiring dog owners to satisfactorily remove fecal matter deposited by their dogs on public or private property not be enacted; and
2. THAT Mr. J. E. Keays, 4841 Inman Avenue, receive a copy of this report.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM: CHIEF LICENCE INSPECTOR
SUBJECT: ANIMAL CONTROL

30 September 1976

At the meeting of 20 September 1976, Council received a letter from J. E. Keays, 4841 Inman Avenue, requesting that consideration be given to "enacting regulations which would require dog-owners to be responsible for the removal of their animals' defecations on public and private property or face prosecution which could result in the owners' being penalized".

This report deals with the nuisance of fecal matter deposited by dogs on public property and private property other than the property of the dog owner.

The following Greater Vancouver areas were surveyed to determine the existence of anti-fouling by-laws and the enforcement of same. The results are:

District of West Vancouver - A by-law which makes it an offence for any owner to allow or suffer any dog to leave or deposit manure or dung on any public place or private property other than the property of the owner unless the owner shall immediately take steps to remove such manure or dung and to dispose of the same in a sanitary manner was enacted in April of this year. To date no enforcement has been initiated. Procedure for enforcement based on prosecution is being studied.

District of Richmond - A similar by-law is currently being studied.

City of Vancouver - recently rejected a by-law and concluded that enforcement would be impossible.

The following areas are not contemplating any such by-law:

City of New Westminster
District of Coquitlam
District of Surrey
District of Delta
City of North Vancouver
District of North Vancouver

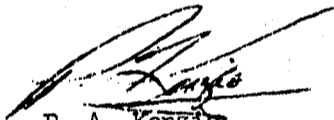
The Municipal Solicitor advises that Council is empowered to enact a by-law comparable to West Vancouver's but cautions that such a by-law would be practically unenforceable.

During the past several years, we have progressively introduced amendments to The Dog Tax and Pound and Animal Regulations By-law which provides for a leash law, increased impounding fees for dog owners who permit their dogs to run at large, violation tickets, increased licence fees and a neutered male licence fee equal to the spayed female licence fee. Additionally, enforcement of animal control regulations has been increased by extending the number of hours that regular patrols are conducted, and expanding into Saturday patrols, seasonal and evening patrols, use of radio equipped vehicles and a 24 hour emergency service. These measures are proving to be effective contributions to animal control.

The available information and the legal opinion indicate that anti-fouling regulations are not enforceable. In my opinion, an anti-fouling by-law would be impractical.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT a by-law requiring dog owners to satisfactorily remove fecal matter deposited by their dogs on public or private property not be enacted; and
2. THAT Mr. J. E. Keays, 4841 Inman Avenue, receive a copy of this report.


P. A. Kenzie
CHIEF LICENCE INSPECTOR

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cc. Municipal Treasurer