

ITEM	7
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	11
COUNCIL MEETING	1980 02 11

RE: REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE WALK-A-THONS AND BIKE-A-THONS

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. a. THAT Council pass the following resolution which would become effective immediately upon its passage:

"The Municipal Council does hereby authorize the Municipal Engineer in 1980 to approve all requests for walk-a-thons and bike-a-thons, subject to the understanding that the Municipal Engineer will coordinate and obtain approval from the Officer-in-Charge, R.C.M.P., and in cases where it may be necessary, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Provincial Ministry of Transportation and Highways.

- b. THAT all letters to Council from persons who request permission to hold walk-a-thons and bike-a-thons be acknowledged directly by the Municipal Engineer without referral to Council, except that when there are unusual circumstances, both the letter and a report will be submitted to Council for consideration.

REPORT

A. Introduction

Council annually gives staff the authority to execute certain transactions of a routine nature in order to eliminate the need for a report each time that they occur. It will be recalled that such delegation was given last month in regard to easements, truncations, ancillary rights, claims, conferences and discharges of rights-of-way that become redundant as a result of the subdivision process. The purpose of this report is to request that this type of delegation be expanded to include walk-a-thons and bike-a-thons (For an understanding on how we process requests for permission to hold such events in Burnaby, please see letters from the Willingdon Park Soccer Association and the Diabetic Association which appears as items 4(d) and 4(e) on the agenda and report item 6 on page 11).

B. Background

Section 23 of the Street and Traffic By-Law requires that no parade shall be held unless an application is made in writing to Council, and unless such application is approved by the Municipal Engineer and the Chief of Police. When a route also includes a Provincial right-of-way, it is necessary for approval to be obtained from the Ministry of Transportation and Highways as well.

Bike-a-thons and walk-a-thons are, in accordance with the proper interpretation of the By-Law, regarded as being a parade in the sense in which this word is used in Section 23.

Organized walking and bicycling events are traditionally held without incident or inconvenience to the public. Organizers provide marshalls for traffic control when required, and the R.C.M.P. monitor the activities to ensure compliance with all applicable regulations.

C. Conclusion

Bike-a-thons and walk-a-thons are events that can be administered routinely on the staff level. If such authority is delegated, however, care would be exercised to ensure that Council is made aware of any unusual circumstances that may arise in connection with an event, such as the closure of a major road or participation by an inordinately large number of people. Experience indicates, however, that such circumstances would rarely if ever occur as the result of this type of event.

Council is also on occasion asked to temporarily close a portion of a street for outdoor neighbourhood dances, or for activities involving roller-skates, sleds, etc. It is proposed that such requests continue to be approved by Council on a case-by-case basis because they are very infrequent, and as a rule can be expected to be somewhat more involved than walking and bicycling events.