ITEMSUPPLEMENTARY16MANAGER'S REPORT NO.64COUNCIL MEETING 19801020

RE: LETTER FROM MR. LANNY AND MRS. CAROL HONOUR 8483 - 16th AVENUE, BURNABY V3N 1S4 BUS SHELTER AT 16th AVENUE AND CUMBERLAND STREET.

The following report from the Municipal Engineer is in response to a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Honour which appears on the agenda for the 1980 October 20 meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendations of the Municipal Engineer be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

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FROM: MUNICIPAL ENGINEER

SUBJECT: BUS SHELTER - 16TH AVENUE AT CUMBERLAND STREET

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT the subject bus shelter location be maintained.

2. THAT Mr. & Mrs. Honour, 8483 - 16th Avenue, Burnaby, V3N 1S4, be sent a copy of this report.

SUMMARY:

The following report provides background to the decision to install a bus shelter at the captioned location and addresses some of the specific concerns of the Honours. The main purpose of this report is to show that these concerns are applicable to other locations at which shelters are currently, or possibly, proposed and that these concerns were considered as a integral part of the noncommercial bus shelter program. Our recommendation to proceed as planned reflects this prior consideration.

REPORT:

The captioned bus shelter location is one of the original sixty approved by Council and is ranked 35th overall and 14th for noncommercial in the original priority rating. This ranking was due to this location's proximity to the George Debery Hospital, an intermediate care facility for men, mostly veterans, with approximately 75% of the 200 patients ambulatory, and thereby potential transit users. Prior to the Municipal Engineer's and the Director of Planning's recommendation to Council to include the subject location within a bus shelter program the Engineering Department received enquiries from a service club wishing to install a bus shelter there. While these enquiries did not lead to a proposal from the service club they did indicate the concerns of the residents of the Hospital.

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Also, approximately three years ago (we have no permanent records to show the precise date), the residents of 8483 - 16th Avenue, Mr. & Mrs. Honour, requested the bus stop and identification post be relocated further from their front porch in that bus patrons were using the porch to stand out of the rain. We complied with this request by relocating the bus stop a few feet further from the intersection, apparently to the satisfaction of the Honours.

In response to concerns expressed by the Honours in their letter we would reply:

1. "...obviously commercially orientated by virture of the illuminated glass and panel..."

While the shelter design is similar to the Seaboard Advertising shelter it will not contain the advertising panel but instead a clear glass panel. It will also have an additional half panel on the third side to protect the bench from wind blown rain.

2. "The proposed bus shelter will definitely lower the aesthetic appearance of our home."

The shelter design, selected from those available, was judged the most aesthetically pleasing. The clear glass panels will minimize blockage from the house and from the street.

3. "...informing people what is going to happen near or on their property frontage."

The proposed shelter is a public service located within a public right-of-way and every reasonable effort is made to minimize the adverse effect on the adjacent property owner when locating shelters. Should it become a prerequisite that the abutting owner has no objection to the shelter the entire program could be in jeopardy because almost without exception the abutting owner would prefer to see bus stops and/or shelters located in front of some other property. As can be seen in the photograph enclosed with the Honours' letter, the shelter is to be located in front of their side yard, between the house and the lane, and not directly in front of the house, as is the case in the existing commercial bus bench which will be removed upon installation of the shelter.

4. "Reinstate the former bus loop on the northeast corner of 16th Avenue and Cumberland Street."

A check with the Metropolitan Transit Operating Company (former B.C. Hydro) revealed that the bus loop at 16th Avenue and Cumberland Street, which was the end of the 2nd Street service, was discontinued 18 to 20 years ago. Part of the former loop is now occupied by a residence, part by an extension of 16th Avenue, and part is still being held by B.C. Hydro. The bus service now extends from 16th Avenue and 6th Street to Lougheed Mall making a loop unnecessary and disruptive to the level of service.

5. "...elderly hospital patients would not have to challenge the automobile every time they crossed the intersection of 16th Avenue and Cumberland Street."

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There are sidewalks on both sides of Cumberland Avenue from the entrance to the hospital at 17th Avenue to 16th Avenue therefore it is not necessary to cross at the intersection of 16th and Cumberland. Even if a patient opted to cross Cumberland at 16th they would be crossing a low volume leg, the north leg, of the intersection as the majority of traffic is turning from and to the south and west legs.

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In summary, we find the arguments presented in this correspondence to be typical of those who feel that bus shelters are desirable but "not in front of my house". As stated previously we feel that to relocate this proposed bus shelter or completely abandon it will result in similar requests where others find bus shelters adjacent their properties objectionable and the entire bus shelter program will be jeopardized. We will continue to be sensitive in the siting of bus shelters in relation to private property while providing the important component of transit service.

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