

ITEM	11
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	50
COUNCIL MEETING	1980 08 05

RE: LETTER FROM MISS PATRICIA KNIGHT
410 NORTH HYTHE AVENUE, BURNABY, B.C. V5B 1G5
TREE GROWTH IN THE 200 BLOCK N. HYTHE AVENUE.

The following report from the Director of Planning is in response to a letter from Miss Patricia Knight which appears on the agenda for the 1980 August 05 meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Director of Planning be adopted.

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

1980 JULY 28

FROM: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM MISS PATRICIA KNIGHT CONCERNING TREE GROWTH
200 BLOCK N. HYTHE AVENUE

RECOMMENDATION

THAT a copy of this report be sent to Miss Patricia Knight, 410 N. Hythe Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V5B 1G5.

REPORT

Appearing on the Council agenda for the 1980 August 05 meeting is a letter from Miss Knight referring to trees growing on a Corporation owned site in the 200 Block N. Hythe Avenue which Miss Knight considers to be obstructing the view from a spot on N. Hythe Avenue.

The site in question is a piece of Corporation land which accommodates a major water pump station and contains also an abandoned underground reservoir, in the area immediately north of Cambridge Street. This site, while not designated as a park site, has the appearance of such as it is developed in an open grassed condition and is maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department for the Engineering Department.

The trees described are on the extreme westerly edge of the Corporation land, on a steep embankment below the level of the top of the underground reservoir, which in turn, is at an elevation well below the level of N. Hythe Avenue.

The trees which have developed in this area by natural regeneration appear to be mainly alder, big-leaf maple, and other fast growing deciduous trees. It should be noted that there are also other large deciduous trees on the private properties situated immediately west of these Corporation lands. The lane to which Miss Knight refers in her letter would appear to be a half lane allowance adjacent the three

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private properties immediately north of Cambridge Street, east of Delta Avenue; this 10 foot wide half lane affords access to the rear of the three private properties on the east side of Delta Avenue, immediately north of Cambridge. (see attached sketch).

Upon investigation, we have been unable to locate any record of Miss Knight's enquiry, but we are able to advise Council that the standard procedure for the handling of public enquiries concerning trees on Corporation lands is to refer to the Parks and Recreation Department who will determine whether there is any hazard involved (such as dangerous trees or limbs) or any interference with public facilities, such as power lines. If hazard or interference is demonstrated, arrangements are made for corrective action to be taken.

However, it is the policy of the Corporation to not remove trees or engage in tree topping operations for trees on public lands unless there is evidence of such danger or interference with public facilities.

In the present case, there appears to be no danger and there are no power lines or other public facilities in this portion of the reservoir site.

The Parks and Recreation Commission from time-to-time receives requests from citizens to have trees growing in parks removed or topped in order to enhance views from private properties. The adopted policy of the Commission in such cases is that they will not clear or top trees in public parks for such reasons. Although the site in the 200 Block N. Hythe is not designated as a park site, it has the appearance of such and is maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department; accordingly it is felt that the policy of the Commission should be observed in this instance as well.

The trees are part of the natural pattern of growth which is a feature of the Capitol Hill area, both on private lands and on the park lands of the conservation area park further to the north. As there is no interference with public works or apparent hazard, the policies of the Corporation would provide for their preservation.

This is for the information of Council.


A. L. Parr
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

DGS/ds

attachment

cc Municipal Engineer
Parks and Recreation
Administrator

