

RE: 1981 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
MAPPING COMPUTER FACILITY - ON-LINE TERMINAL
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

ITEM	12
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	60
COUNCIL MEETING	1981 11 30

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT the recommendation of the Director Planning & Building Inspection be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING INSPECTION
SUBJECT: 1981 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
MAPPING COMPUTER FACILITY - ON-LINE TERMINAL
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1981 NOVEMBER 26
Our File: 04:331

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council endorse the purchase and installation of an on-line Mapping Computer terminal in the Planning Department utilizing the funds provided in the approved 1981 Planning Department budget for this purpose.

SUMMARY:

The Mapping Computer Facility operated by the Engineering Department has provided Burnaby with a powerful, "state-of-the art" tool for the storage, retrieval and display of data on a geographic base.

The addition of the proposed on-line terminal in the Planning Department will mark a significant step in the utilization of the system, as it will permit a move from the "development" to the "operational" phase, insofar as use by departments other than Engineering is concerned. After a considerable expenditure of time, money and effort in creating the system, the use of this terminal and others like it will allow realization of the benefits of the Mapping Computer by other user departments in their services to the public.

Funds have been provided in the approved 1981 Planning Department budget and C.I.P. for the acquisition of this terminal to allow practical, active day-to-day use of the system by the Planning Department as the first of the additional user departments that are foreseen by the Computer Advisory Committee.

It is proposed that a purchase order now be issued for the expenditure of the approved 1981 funds, so that no increase in the 1982 budget will be necessary.

REPORT

Provision has been made in the adopted 1981 Annual Budget for acquisition and installation of an on-line terminal in the Mapping Computer system for use in the Planning Department. Council approved the \$61,000.00 Contribution to Capital (C.I.P.) in connection with this item at the time of budget consideration with the understanding that a further report would be submitted prior to expenditure of the funds.

The 1981 Recast Budget review process resulted in a revised estimate of \$65,281.00 for this item, including a \$2,760.00 contingency amount, and the approved Recast Budget increased the Contribution to Capital accordingly.

The Planning Department has been moving since 1979 toward utilization of the Mapping Computer, through training and familiarization of staff with the equipment, participating in the creation of the data base, and assisting in development of the system in cooperation with the Engineering Department, utilizing a terminal in the Fourth Floor Computer Facility quarters when and as available.

The system has now progressed to the point at which active, day-to-day practical application of the computer to planning work can be achieved, requiring ready, constant access to a terminal within the department. The Planning Department will continue to play a major role in the creation and upkeep of the data base, and we look forward to ongoing instantaneous information retrieval and display/map production use in the near future.

The Computer Advisory Committee has been kept informed of the progress in moving toward operational use of the system by the Planning Department, and on 1981 August 27 the Committee adopted the following motion:

"THAT the Computer Advisory Committee support the Planning Department's proposal to obtain an on-line terminal of the Mapping Computer Facility, during the 1981 budget year."

A mapping computer terminal differs from a standard terminal in that it consists of two CRT displays (one for graphics; the second for alpha-numeric displays), a digitizing table, microprocessing control unit, keyboard, desk and hard copy unit (estimated at \$53,217.00). Installation, wiring, shipping, servicing taxes, and contingency total an additional estimated \$12,064.00. This terminal will be used for the initial entry and on-going maintenance of planning data in the computer, while daily inquiry use from the front counter area is expected to be a-high priority requirement once the major data entry is complete. In future, it is expected that a second terminal, probably a simpler version without the digitizing table, will be required at the front counter area to assist in direct service to the public, reducing the time and cost of handling public inquiries.

A terminal is required within the Planning Department for the following reasons:

- i) to secure constant access to the planning data base stored on the computer, where we are presently subject to restricted access when a terminal is not readily available.
- ii) for quick reference and display of information required for response to inquiries as well as other daily planning functions.
- iii) to facilitate data entry and maintenance without removal of often bulky data from the area where it is required for frequent reference.

Examples of the proposed uses include the following:

- i) Front Counter
 - instant recall of all information pertaining to a property or area including zoning, land-use, ownership, etc.
 - record and reference any applications or plan information pertaining to properties or areas including rezoning, subdivisions, development plans, dedications, road widenings, etc.
 - provide copies of maps and data listings for any property or area.


- ii) Development Approvals
 - recall and display basic property and building information
 - obtain maps of sites with surrounding areas and select information displayed - zoning, lot dimensions, easements, road dedications, etc.
- iii) Zoning and Subdivision
 - recall of a complete set of information pertaining to a property including listing of previous actions, plans, dedications, etc.
 - creation of maps for zoning and subdivision reports.
 - plotting of subdivisions.
- iv) Community Plans
 - recall of a complete set of property information.
 - create maps of select areas with information such as easements and dedications displayed.
 - create a program to do necessary calculations with respect to FAR, development costs, and so on.
- v) Concept and Implementation Strategies
 - property and building information, including development statistics.
 - create base maps which display pertinent information, including building location, road dedications, easements, zoning and so on.
 - projections for population, housing and development, as well as absorption of building development.
- vi) Policy and Research
 - access to all property and building information required for research and report preparation.
 - creation of base maps for specific studies
 - projections and cross tabulations
 - plotting of development activity and other relevant information for the purpose of forecasting and trend analysis.
- vii) Transportation Planning
 - plot and display traffic volumes, flow patterns and accident data.
 - analyse origin/destination and other survey data using primarily standard canned programs.
 - recall basic development data pertaining to generators of traffic; i.e. land-use, employment, population, etc.
 - create intersection and roadway design drawings.
 - display and manipulate existing and proposed road and transit network.

Given the considerable outlay of both time and money invested in the acquisition and development of the Computer Mapping system, it is logical to now take the next step of providing the terminal hardware necessary to enable the Planning Department as a major user to utilize this facility for practical purposes.

As the necessary funds have been provided in the 1981 Budget, it is proposed that the purchase order for the equipment and its installation be issued directly, prior to the end of the year.

DGS/nb

cc: Director Engineering
Treasurer


A. L. Parr
DIRECTOR PLANNING &
BUILDING INSPECTION

