

ITEM	12
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	11
COUNCIL MEETING	1981 02 09

Re: PROPOSAL TO ENCLOSE A PORTION OF STILL CREEK
PUBLIC FREIGHTWAYS LTD.
3985 STILL CREEK STREET

Following is a report from the Chief Public Health Inspector regarding the proposed enclosure of a portion of Still Creek.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mr. Terry R. Smythe, Divisional Controller, Public Freightways Limited, P. O. Box 5300, Vancouver, B. C., V6B 4B6.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

FROM: CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

RE: LETTER FROM MR. TERRY R. SMYTHE, DIVISIONAL CONTROLLER,
PUBLIC FREIGHTWAYS, P.O. BOX 5300, VANCOUVER, B.C., V6B 4B6
PROPOSAL TO ENCLOSE PORTION OF STILL CREEK
3985 STILL CREEK AVENUE, BURNABY, B.C.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the following report be received for the information of Council.

REPORT

Further to your request for information concerning possible environmental effects that the proposed enclosure site may have on Still Creek water quality, we would advise as follows:

This Department conducts weekly bacteriological sampling on Still Creek at three locations: (a) Myrtle Avenue - point of entry into Burnaby, (b) Still Creek-North Arm - Gilmore Avenue, (c) Sperling Avenue. A review of our sampling data from 1971 to date reveals no significant change in the level of bacteriological contamination of Still Creek at the proposed enclosure site.

It must be emphasized that Still Creek water quality will continue to be subjected to levels of contamination from urban drainage, namely streets, roads, etc. For this reason, Still Creek will not be able to meet public health bacteriological water quality standards for recreational waters.

The bacteriological water quality of Still Creek at Sperling Avenue continues to show a marked improvement in comparison with the sections of Still Creek near the proposed enclosure site.

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In addition to our weekly bacteriological sampling, a continual program of inspection and, when required, chemical sampling of discharges to Still Creek and its tributaries is conducted. Illegal discharges of oil, grease or trade wastes are traced back to source and ordered removed from the storm drainage system. Under authority of the Provincial Health Act and Municipal By-laws, businesses with vehicular transport or parking areas which are found discharging oil or grease to the storm sewer system are required to install catchbasins and oil interceptors for removal of the pollutants. This program has been very successful in eliminating oil and grease discharges to Still Creek system through illegal truck washings, steam cleaning or spills from improper yard drainage at filling stations.

This Department would prefer to have Still Creek in as open a condition as possible because this facilitates observation and the control of discharges. However, in this particular case, there would be no objection to the proposed enclosure if Public Freightways Ltd. installs total yard drainage to be treated by oil interceptors and, in addition, inspectional and sampling chambers at the site of the closure.

The Planning Department has stated that the enclosure, if implemented as proposed, should not be construed as a precedent because the property in question is unlike other properties that abut Still Creek. This Department concurs with this position.

In summary, the property belonging to Public Freightways Ltd. is unique in comparison with other properties along Still Creek, and if the firm installs the types of environmental control devices that are referred to elsewhere in this report, this Department would have no objections to the proposed enclosure.

G.V. HARVIE

G.V. Harvie, C.P.H.I. (C)
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

GVH:1a

c.c. Director of Planning