

RE: BICYCLE LICENCING

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendations of the Treasurer be adopted.

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1982 November 23

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM: TREASURER
RE: BICYCLE LICENCING

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT Council approve a fee of \$12.50, plus the cost of a licence, be charged to the owner of every unlicensed bicycle that is recovered by the Municipality and returned to the owner; and
2. THAT the recovery fee be become effective 1983 January 01.

SUMMARY

This report sets out a proposal to charge a fee of \$12.50 for every unlicensed bicycle that is recovered and returned to its rightful owner. It is not necessary to pass a by-law; a simple resolution suffices.

REPORT

1. BACKGROUND

In 1973 licencing of bicycles was introduced on recommendation of the R.C.M.P. It is intended to provide identification of the rightful owner of a bicycle that has been stolen or lost. It is a compulsory licence, required when a bicycle is operated on a highway or public place. Initially, the annual fee was \$1.00 per bicycle. It was increased to \$2.00 in 1976.

2. LICENCING

Examination of our bicycle licencing program determined that when an unlicensed bicycle is returned to its owner, that person benefits at the cost of persons who purchase licences.

Revenue from the collection of licence fees is used to offset the cost of licencing, and cost of recovery, identification of owner, and storage of bicycles. Unlicensed bicycles are held a minimum of 90 days and if not claimed, sold at auction. During the 90 day period, they are checked through the R.C.M.P.'s computerized stolen list (C.P.I.C.) at least twice. Proceeds from the auction sales offset storage, handling and disposal costs.

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Unlicensed bicycles for which an owner is identified, are released for the cost of a licence fee - \$2.00.

3. RECOVERY

By the time an unlicensed bicycle has been returned to its owner it has gone through the following procedure. Documentation by the R.C.M.P. through a found report, which in turn creates a pickup order being relayed to Engineering staff at the works yard for transportation to our storage compound located at the Municipal Hall. When the bicycle is received at the compound, it is checked for identification, matched against stolen reports and run on the C.P.I.C. system. An identified owner is notified and the bicycle is released, or the owner has come forward seeking the bicycle. On release, the file number is removed from C.P.I.C. and the file is closed. In its simplest form, bicycle licensing is a form of insurance that provides a method of returning bicycles to the rightful owners. The rate of return of licenced bicycles is almost 100%.

As a method of equalizing the costs of the licencing, recovery and returning stolen or lost bicycles, it is proposed that on return of an unlicensed bicycle to its owner a recovery fee be charged. This would be in addition to the annual licence fee.

The Solicitor advises that a recovery fee could be collected from owners claiming unlicensed bicycles. This would not require a by-law, but the procedure should have the approval of Council.

4. PROPOSED FEE

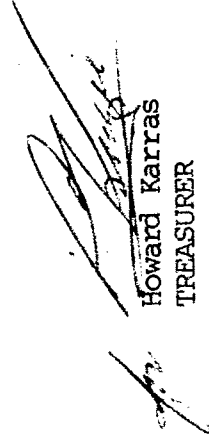
A recovery fee of \$12.50 per bicycle is proposed for implementation on 1983 January 01. This amount is based on the Engineer's estimated cost for transporting recovered bicycles to our compound in 1983.

5. CONCLUSION

In my opinion, owners who do not licence their bicycles should not benefit at the cost of those owners that do obtain licences.

It is recommended that effective 1983 January 01 a recovery fee of \$12.50, plus the cost of a licence, be charged to the owner of every unlicensed bicycle that is recovered by the Municipality and returned to the owner.

This new fee would be noted in the combined dog and bicycle brochure that is delivered to every household at the end of the year, and would be included as an item in the next issue of Information Burnaby.



Howard Karras
TREASURER

cc: Municipal Solicitor