

RE: CENTRAL AREA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING STUDY
(ITEM 17, REPORT NO. 50, 1983 JULY 25)

On 1983 September 12, Council (a) received a report from staff on this matter and (b) referred the report to the Parks & Recreation Commission, Heritage Village Museum Board and the Transportation Committee for consideration and comment. It was understood that as comments were received from these three bodies, they would be referred to the Planning & Building Inspection Department, and that this Department would subsequently submit a further report to Council.

The Planning & Building Inspection Department will submit the final report approximately four weeks from the time that comments are received from all the reviewing bodies.

The Parks & Recreation Commission and the Heritage Village Museum Board have concluded their deliberations and are, on this agenda, submitting their respective reports for Council's consideration.

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the following report from the Director Recreation & Cultural Services be referred to the Planning & Building Inspection Department for inclusion in the further report that is to be prepared for Council.

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1984 FEBRUARY 07

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
 FROM: DIRECTOR RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES
 RE: CENTRAL AREA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING STUDY

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council -

1. Establish a time line for receipt of the Planning and Building Inspection Department report and ensure that the time line allows Council the opportunity to identify a 1984 source of financing for the road network if it is accepted.
2. Approve in principle the road network recommended on Figure 6 of the 1983 July 20 report of the Director Planning and Building Inspection.
3. Endorse the boundaries of Heritage Village proposed in the 1984 February 13 report of the Museum Board of Directors, C.P.M.A.
4. Ensure concurrent implementation of the Canada Way/Norland/Deer Lake Place intersection, the closing of Century Park Way and the Park Drive to Sperling.
5. Ensure that immediately following approval of the proposed road network, the design of the required external and internal signage is commenced.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 1983 September 21, the Parks and Recreation Commission received the subject report from Council and referred it to staff for comment. The staff report was received by the Commission at its meeting of 1983 November 16 and after approving a recommendation to forward the report to the Arts Council and the Art Gallery for comment, the Commission tabled the following recommendation.

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'THAT the Commission approve in principle the Road Network recommended on Figure 6 of the report of the Director Planning and Building Inspection and the staged implementation approval, subject to any revisions necessitated by comments from the Arts Council and the Art Gallery and/or from final decisions on the disposition of the Hart House, Railway location and Museum expansion.'

On 1984 February 08, at a special meeting of the Commission, a further staff report was received based on comments received from the Art Gallery and the Arts Council.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission supports in principle the road network recommended on Figure 6 of the 1983 July 20 report of the Director Planning and Building Inspection. The Commission is satisfied that the parking proposed will meet immediate needs and will allow for the controlled expansion of park facilities in the future.

The road pattern through the park is the best that can be achieved to serve park users and discourage commuter traffic. It preserves the integrity of the grass area which lies south of and connects to the Cowan Centre which the Commission sees as being essential because of a future increase in large community events.

The campus image of the entire area which continues to be emphasized in this report is also supported by the Commission.

THE GATEWAY CONCEPT AND SIGNAGE

The Commission supports the gateway concept and is particularly concerned that signage be given a prominence and priority in the implementation of this plan.

POSITION OF ART GALLERY AND ARTS COUNCIL

The Commission has met with and received written reports from both the Art Gallery Association and the Arts Council. The Commission has been advised that both the Gallery and the Council support the proposed road network. The problem of appropriate signage is a major concern of both groups and both groups are anxious to maintain input into the process.

HERITAGE VILLAGE MUSEUM BOARD - LAND EXCHANGE PROPOSAL

On 1984 January 31, the Commission met with representatives of the Heritage Village Museum Board to discuss the Transportation Plan. At this meeting, the Commission was advised that the Board approved the proposed road pattern providing that there was change in the land area now planned for Museum expansion.

The Board proposes that the properties on Deer Lake Avenue slated for future Museum expansion be removed from their planning program and that in their place, the Museum be given the portion of the Hart property bounded by Canada Way, Sperling and the proposed Park Drive. The Board is presenting this proposal to Council as part of its response on the Transportation Study.

The Commission has reviewed this proposal and recommends that Council endorse it. The inclusion of the Deer Lake properties in the public park area will assist the Commission both in terms of possible facility expansion and in maintaining the open area between the buildings and the lake.

NEXT STEPS IN THE PROCESS

The response of both the Commission and of Heritage Village Museum will be received by Council at its meeting of 1984 February 13. These reports will be referred by Council to the Planning Department who will provide a further report to Council recommending approval of the road pattern and the implementation approach. The report from the Planning Department cannot be prepared until Council has received a response from the Transportation Committee.

OTHER CONCERNS

The road proposal is unanimously supported by the Commission and by the major occupants of Century Park. There is a strong desire to see implementation begin immediately so that some of the long existing problems of the Century Park occupants can be resolved.

To achieve immediate implementation, Council should examine plans for funding in 1984. Therefore, it would be appropriate for Council to establish a time line for the receipt of the Planning and Building Inspection Department report to allow an opportunity for the consideration of capital funding. This plan should also include a mutually agreed priority of implementation. Some parts of the plan could probably go forward concurrently. For example, the Commission's priority is the closing of Gilpin to through traffic. This requires completion of the Canada Way/Norland intersection whereas the Museum's priority is the completion of the Sperling Avenue/Park Drive connection.

In view of the many concerns expressed about signage, the Commission would recommend that work on the signage program be commenced immediately following approval of the proposed road network.

At its meeting of 1984 February 08, the Commission approved the following recommendation from the staff report of 1983 November 16.

'THAT the Commission approve in principle the Road Network recommended on Figure 6 of the report of the Director Planning and Building Inspection and the staged implementation approval.'

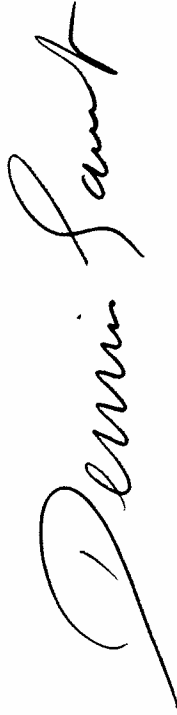
The Commission also approved the following recommendations from the staff report of 1984 February 08.

'THAT the Commission request Council to:-

1. Establish a time line for receipt of the Planning and Building Inspection Department report and ensure that the time line allows Council the opportunity to identify a 1984 source of financing for the road network if it is accepted by Council.

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2. Approve in principle the road network recommended on Figure 6 of the 1983 July 20 report of the Director Planning and Building Inspection.
3. Endorse the boundaries of Heritage Village proposed in the 1984 February 13 report of the Museum Board of Directors, C.P.M.A.
4. Ensure concurrent implementation of the Canada Way/Norland/Deer Lake Place intersection, the closing of Century Park Way and the Park Drive to Sperling.
5. Ensure that immediately following Council's approval of the proposed road network, the design of the required external and internal signage is commenced.



DENNIS GAUNT
Director Rec. & Cultural Services

C.C.
Director Planning & Bldg. Inspection

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