

RE: LETTER FROM BILL RITCHIE, MINISTER,
MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS,
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, VICTORIA, B.C. V8V 1X4

1984 PLANNING GRANTS

ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

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

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1984 August 15

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING INSPECTION Our file: 05.400

SUBJECT: 1984 PLANNING GRANT

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council express its regret that the Minister of Municipal Affairs has elected to reduce funding and amend the Planning Grant guidelines subsequent to applications being submitted by Municipalities and Regional Districts under the 1984 Planning Grant Program.
2. THAT the Minister of Municipal Affairs be requested to consider restoring funding under the 1984 Planning Grant Program to the originally announced level.
3. THAT the Minister of Municipal Affairs be requested to continue the Planning Grant Program in 1985 and that guidelines for the program be developed immediately.
4. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Honourable Bill Ritchie, Minister of Municipal Affairs.
5. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.
6. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to Mr. E. Veitch MLA; Ms. R. Brown MLA; Mrs. E. Dailly MLA.

REPORT

A. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

Appearing on the Council agenda of 1984 August 20 are two items of correspondence on the 1984 Planning Grant Program. One is from the Honourable Bill Ritchie, Minister of Municipal Affairs and the other from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities. The purpose of this report is to indicate to Council what implications the changes in the grant guidelines and Burnaby's 1984 grant will have on the Municipality.

ITEM 11
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 52
COUNCIL MEETING 84/08/20

Re: 1984 Planning Grant
1984 August 15 Page 2

B. THE MUNICIPAL APPLICATION

The Municipal Council on 1984 January 30 authorized staff to make application under the 1984 Planning Grant Program to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs for the 1984 portion of work identified in the Official Plan program.

The Municipal application requested funding assistance for the first of a two part program. The first part of the program was to be undertaken in 1984 and the second in 1985.

Under the original terms of the Planning Grant Program, the guidelines provided for a maximum grant of \$75,000 with up to 100 percent funding for approved programs. Burnaby's application for 1984 was for \$52,000.

C. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF BURNABY'S 1984 PLANNING GRANT

The Minister has advised that:

1. Burnaby is eligible to receive a grant in the amount of \$20,000 for the work proposed in the 1984 program.
2. The grant will be payable only if the Community Plan is adopted by Council and submitted to the Province by 1985 December 31. In other words, the 1984 grant is only payable after the Municipality has completed the second part of its Community Plan work proposed for 1985. Previously, the grant would have been payable on completion of the work for which funding was applied for.

D. THE IMPLICATIONS

Burnaby has commenced work on the 1984 portion of its Community Plan program. The reduced grant to Burnaby and the changes to the payment guidelines have the following implications on Burnaby:

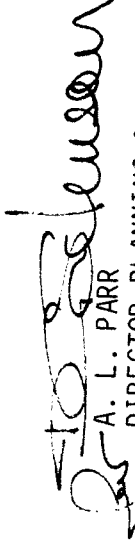
1. This department's 1984 Annual Budget made provision for the receipt of the full \$52,000 applied for. The 1984 and 1985 Community Plan work was to be undertaken in-house by Municipal staff and reflected a sincere effort to keep projects costs to an absolute minimum. In view of the Minister's announcement, there will be a revenue shortfall of \$52,000 in this department's 1984 budget.
2. With the completion, adoption and submission of the Plan by year end 1985, the Municipality will be able to recoup \$20,000 in 1985 or early 1986 for work undertaken in 1984.
3. The Municipality was anticipating a Planning Grant to undertake the second part of its Community Plan work in 1985. We have been unable to determine what grants will be available in 1985, or what the guidelines would be. In order to realistically plan the department's activity and operating budget for 1985, it is necessary to receive an indication of whether Provincial Planning Grants can be anticipated for 1985 and under what guidelines.

Re: 1984 Planning Grant
1984 August 15 Page 3

E. CONCLUSIONS

The work towards the completion of an Official Community Plan for Burnaby is important and will continue. It is the intention of staff to complete the Plan for Council adoption toward the latter part of 1985. In accordance with Council direction, the Official Community Plan will be policy-oriented.

Funding for the Community Plan work in Burnaby is important as are consistent grant guidelines because of their implications on the budget and the Municipal tax draw. Accordingly, it is recommended that the Minister of Municipal Affairs be requested to continue the Planning Grant Program for 1985 and that guidelines for the 1985 program be developed immediately.


A. L. PARR
DIRECTOR PLANNING &
BUILDING INSPECTION

BLS/jce

cc: Director Finance

