

RE: LETTER FROM MRS. A. SEGUIN WHICH APPEARED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE  
1986 NOVEMBER 17 MEETING OF COUNCIL (Item 4c)  
SANDWICH BOARD SIGNS ON HASTINGS STREET

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Director Engineering be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1986 NOVEMBER 26

FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

SUBJECT: HASTINGS STREET - BOUNDARY ROAD TO GAMMA AVENUE  
SANDWICH BOARD SIGNS

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT MRS. A. Seguin, 203-4191 Albert Street, Burnaby, B. C.,  
V5C 2E5, be sent a copy of this report.

R E P O R T

Mrs. A. Seguin, 203-4191 Albert Street, Burnaby, B. C., V5C 2E5,  
wrote to Council concerning private sign placements on Hastings  
Street.

For a number of years the Engineering Department has been working  
toward the elimination of illegal sign placements in Burnaby. We  
have been quite successful in eliminating those signs that have  
been nailed to telephone poles or posted in boulevard areas by  
simply removing and destroying them.

The removal of sandwich board signs, typically those signs placed  
within the sidewalk area by local merchants, is a little more  
involved and has not been as successful. In dealing with these  
type of signs, we first approach the offending merchant to hand  
deliver a written notice advising that the sign they have placed  
in the road right-of-way is illegal. The notice gives them a  
time period to have the sign removed (usually 48 hours). If the  
sign is not removed by the time specified, it is confiscated.  
Confiscated signs can be redeemed by the owner upon payment of an  
impoundment and handling fee of \$50.00, as called for in a policy  
adopted by Council.

The most difficult problems occur where signing has been placed  
within the rights-of-way of Provincial Arterial Highways; the  
subject street, Hastings, is one such Highway. Under Section 213  
of the Provincial Motor Vehicle Act,

- "213. (1) A person shall not erect or maintain, or cause to  
be erected or maintained, a sign, advertisement  
or guide post on or over
- (a) an arterial highway or a highway in rural  
area, except with the approval of the  
Minister of Transportation and Highways;
  - (b) a highway, other than an arterial highway in  
a municipality, except in accordance with the  
bylaws of the municipality, and subject to  
this section."

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Therefore, signs erected on Arterial Highways come under the control of the Minister of Transportation and Highways. Even though the above section specifies that one cannot place signs on the Arterial Highways, Ministry staff have instructions to not remove any signing unless it is causing "a potential hazard".

The Engineering Department applied to the Ministry for permission to remove illegal signs from Arterial Highways in Burnaby as an agent of the Ministry. The Ministry responded that they were not prepared to grant us this authority but did state that if we were concerned about a particular sign, that they would consider taking further action. In line with this statement, we have notified the Ministry of the subject mishap and we are hopeful that the appropriate action will be taken by them.

Further to the above, we would advise that the Ministry staff have indicated that the whole question of sign placement on Provincial Arterial Highways is still under review by two Provincial Ministries (Tourism, and Transportation and Highways).

Staff members have spoken to Mrs. Seguin on two occasions, relating to the above matter.

HB:m1

  
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING