

RE: LETTER FROM MS. VERA KNOWLES WHICH APPEARED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE
OCTOBER 10TH MEETING OF COUNCIL
ACCESSIBILITY FOR THE HANDICAPPED - NORTH BURNABY

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

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

* * * * *

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1989 OCTOBER 11

FROM: ACTING DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

SUBJECT: ACCESSIBILITY FOR THE HANDICAPPED - NORTH BURNABY

PURPOSE: To respond to concerns expressed in correspondence from
Vera Knowles of 105 - 4451 Albert Street.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Vera Knowles of 105 - 4451 Albert Street receive a
copy of this report.

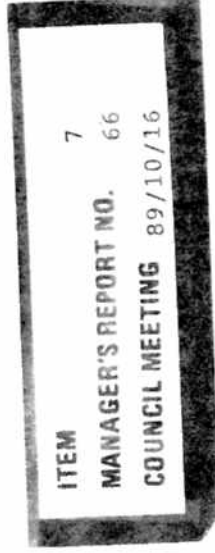
REPORT

Appearing on the regular Council meeting agenda of 1989 October 10 under Correspondence and Petitions was a letter from Vera Knowles of 105 - 4451 Albert Street, expressing various concerns regarding accessibility for the handicapped in North Burnaby. This was referred to Engineering for report.

In her letter, Mrs. Knowles brings forward the question of whether Eaton's will be providing wheelchair and handicapped-equipped entrances as part of the remodelling project on the North Burnaby store. The construction that she refers to is part of the Brentwood Mall Expansion. The Building Division has advised us that pursuant to the B.C. Building Code, at least two entrances will be equipped with 1.5 m wide wheelchair ramps. Automatic doors will be provided at major public entrances.

Council policy regarding the installation of wheelchair ramps at street intersections allows for construction of ramps on a need basis. In her letter, Mrs. Knowles identifies the need for wheelchair ramps at the intersection of Albert Street and Willingdon Avenue, in addition to a desired modification to the existing asphalt ramp on the north west corner. Staff will be scheduling this work to be done in late 1989.

Mrs. Knowles' suggestion of changing the vehicular access to the Burnaby Heights Centre (formerly Burnaby Heights Junior High School) from Albert Street to Pandora Street would only be reviewed if a redevelopment of the site were proposed. Staff have checked the driveway crossing in question and found its "slopes" to be within acceptable limits. The Burnaby School Board which maintains the gravel driveway has been contacted about loose gravel on the sidewalk.



Regarding the complaint that the east entrance doors to Confed-eration House are too heavy to use by individuals in wheelchairs or using walkers, we have been advised by the Parks & Recreation Department that the installation of automatic doors is planned.

115

The traffic signal at the intersection of Hastings Street and Willingdon Avenue has pedestrian signal indications and is pedestrian actuated. The Ministry of Transportation and Highways has been contacted to review minimum pedestrian crossing time intervals for this intersection.

The contents of this report have been discussed with Vera Knowles.

D.C. Smith
ACTING DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

AH:je

cc: Director Planning & Building Inspection
Director Recreation & Cultural Services
District Manager, M.O.T.H.
Burnaby School Board
Traffic Supervisor