

ITEM	5
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	9
COUNCIL MEETING	90/02/05

RE: NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE SIGNS

ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

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

* * * * *

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

1990 JANUARY 18

FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE SIGNS

PURPOSE: To respond to Council's request to investigate the feasibility of placing signs, designating Burnaby as a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone, at the arterial gateways to the Municipality.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

At its meeting of 1990 January 08, arising from discussion of correspondence regarding the Canadian Municipal Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Network, Council adopted the following recommendations:

"THAT Municipal staff investigate the feasibility of placing signs designating Burnaby as a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone on the four Municipally-controlled access routes and further;

THAT staff also investigate the placement of similar signage on the Provincially-controlled access routes and if permission is not forthcoming from the Provincial Government, to explore the nearest available Municipal land for placement of the signs."

2.0 BACKGROUND

In a previous Council report (1985 November 18, Manager's Report No. 73, Item 6) a number of locations were listed as potential sites for Nuclear Free Zone signs. That report identified eleven places on Provincial Arterials and four on Municipal arterials as follows:

1. Broadway west of North Road
2. Austin Avenue west of North Road
3. Imperial Street east of Boundary Road
4. Canada Way east of Boundary Road

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Upon review we would also add a fifth Municipal arterial location:

- 5. 19th/20th diversion north of 10th Avenue

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3.0 PROVINCIAL APPROVAL

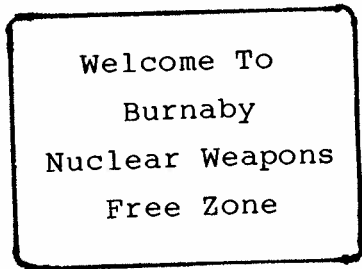
Staff wrote to the District Manager, Ministry of Transportation and Highways on 1985 November 07 requesting a permit to erect the appropriate signing on their arterial highways. We were notified by letter dated 1985 January 17 that our application to post "Nuclear Weapons Free Zone" signing was not approved. A copy of this letter is attached.

We recently phoned the author of the letter which denied approval. He confirmed that the Ministry's policy remains unchanged. He acknowledged that the Ministry could not control signs placed off the Highway right-of-way.

4.0 FEASIBLE SIGN LOCATIONS

4.1 On Municipal Arterials

Staff have again reviewed whether the Municipality may be prohibited from placing "Nuclear Weapons Free Zone" signs on Municipal arterials. It is our view that we are not. We would however recommend that such signing conform to the manual of "Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada" specification for a "miscellaneous information sign". The design is as illustrated below.



Green background with white letters and white border.
(24" x 30")

Fig. 1 Sign Specification

The above signing specification coincides with that used by the City of Vancouver and proposed by Burnaby in 1985/6 except for background colour which was then brown.

4.2 On Lands Adjacent to Provincial Highways

We have reviewed the Provincial arterial gateways to the Municipality to identify off right-of-way signing locations on Municipal property. We confined our search to within 2 blocks of our border in order to maintain the intent of the signs as an entrance statement. The feasible locations identified are:

1. Hastings Street east of Boundary (3802 Hastings at Esmond)
2. Kingsway east of Boundary Road (Central Park)
3. Marine Way east of Boundary Road (8729 Joffre)

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We have considered the validity of such sign placement in the context of the Sign Bylaw and Parks regulations. It appears that the signs could be put on Municipal property, including Parks if that direction were given by Council resolution.

5.0 DISCUSSION

In previous reports it was brought to Council's attention that the Council did not have authority to enact bylaws respecting nuclear weapons. However the placement of thematic signs, as discussed above, could be accomplished at Council's direction through resolution.


DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

PL:je
Attach.

- cc: Traffic Supervisor
- Director Administrative & Community Services
- Director Planning & Building Inspection
- Director Recreation & Cultural Services
- Municipal Solicitor

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Province of
British Columbia

Ministry of
Transportation
and Highways

Planning Department
660-8295
309 - 6th Street
New Westminster, BC
V3L 3A7

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YOUR FILE 14-21-72-85193
OUR FILE

January 17, 1986

ENGINEERING DEPT.
F. Nuclear
JAN 22 1986

The Corporation of the
District of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, B.C.
V5G 1M2

Attention: H. Bacon
Traffic Supervisor

Dear Sir:

Signing for - "Nuclear Weapons Free Zone"

Further to your letter of November 7, 1985 this Ministry advises the application for the above noted signing, is not approved.

In the past the Honourable Minister has written to different protest groups and Municipalities indicating that certain types of highway signing relate to the driving task, while others do not.

The designation of an area as a "Nuclear Free Zone" is a statement of moral philosophy. While the Ministry supports the curtailment of offensive nuclear weapons, if we condone signing in support of the peace movement then the precedent can be used to support signing for many other causes which may also be seen as valid moral issues by other active groups. We are sure that you will agree that a proliferation of permanent highway signing of that type would be an affront to the many road users who wish to see the minimum amount of man-made intrusion into the natural beauty of this Province.

Yours truly,

G. W. Callander
Glenn W. Callander
Planning Technician

For: R. A. Fru, P. Eng.
District Highways Manager

GWC/ek