

RE: CHOOSING OUR FUTURE - A DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE GVRD

ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

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

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1990 JANUARY 31

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING INSPECTION

SUBJECT: CHOOSING OUR FUTURE - A DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE GVRD

PURPOSE: To provide information on the process being followed in the "Choosing Our Future" program that will guide the Region's development decisions through the 1990's.

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RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information.

R E P O R T

1.0 BACKGROUND

Members of Council recently received a letter from Mayor Gil Blair, Chairperson of the GVRD Board, outlining a program called "Choosing Our Future" whose primary purpose is to update Greater Vancouver's Livable Region Strategy and guide the Region's development decisions through the 1990's. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on Burnaby's specific involvement in the program and process.

2.0 THE LIVABLE REGION STRATEGY

The Livable Region Strategy developed cooperatively in the early 1970's by the member municipalities of the GVRD has provided a context for regional and municipal development. The development of SkyTrain, the regional town centre program and the addition of regional park space are examples of this development. When the strategy was developed some 15 years ago, Greater Vancouver had a population of just over one million. The population is now 1.5 million and expected to exceed 2 million in 20 years. Much has changed since the Livable Region strategy was first developed. Addressing new issues will require a clear focus on what is to be achieved and a shared regional agenda on how to get there.

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**3.0 "CHOOSING OUR FUTURE"**

"Choosing Our Future" is intended to rethink the Livable Region Strategy and to seek new insights from the region's residents. Community involvement is seen to be key to this process. What were the successes and failures of the Livable Region Strategy? What should Greater Vancouver's objectives be for the 1990's and beyond? The process for the review is guided by the GVRD Board's Development Services Committee of which Mayor Copeland is a member.

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**4.0 THE PROCESS**

Council may recall that as part of the process to review the Livable Region Strategy it had previously considered a working paper by the GVRD Development Services Technical Advisory Committee entitled "Challenges for a Contemporary Statement of the Livable Region Strategy". Resulting from this review, a set of draft goals and strategies were developed by the Committee and endorsed by Council as a framework for raising and discussing issues of regional importance and initiating further actions.

The GVRD Development Services Committee has now established a four-part process to generate further discussion and facilitate community participation.

**4.1 Part 1 - Regional Challenge Seminars**

Six one day seminars with keynote addresses by eminent professionals have been arranged to focus on key issues facing the region. These topics are urban mobility, the environment, health care and aging, cosmopolitan culture, community life (regional social issues), and changing public values. In addition to these seminars, a workshop on community design in developing communities has also been scheduled. Members of the Development Services Technical Advisory Committee representing the member municipalities are attending the seminars.

**4.2 Part 2 - Background Research Papers**

Research is being undertaken primarily through consultants in six major subject areas to supplement existing information. This research is on the Regional Town Centre concept, Greater Vancouver's land supply, working close to home, Greater Vancouver's agricultural base, affordable housing and a Greater Vancouver public attitudes survey.

**4.3 Part 3 - Forum on Choosing Our Future**

This involves a region-wide interactive cable television program on the evening of March 8, 1990 and a Forum involving about 300 of the region's elected representatives and representatives of community organizations on 1990 March 9 and 10. The objective of the Forum is to identify some preliminary strategy directions for consideration at the Community Workshops.

Formal submissions by the community organizations can be made at the Forum or in writing to the Development Services Committee.

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**4.4 Part 4 - Community Workshops**

During 1990 March and April, the Development Services Committee will chair a series of community workshops where the community is encouraged to attend and participate. Their purpose is to discuss what is required to maintain Greater Vancouver's livability in the 1990's. The workshops will be well advertised. The workshop in Burnaby has been confirmed for Tuesday, April 17, 1990 at Bonsor Centre from 19.00h to 22.00h. Municipal staff are involved in setting up this workshop. Over and above the advertisements, invitations are being sent to community organizations in Burnaby. To date 48 community organizations have been identified. Staff are undertaking a further review of the list to ensure that it is as comprehensive as possible.

Written submissions and comments up to 1990 May 18 can also be made by the community to the Greater Vancouver Regional District Development Services Department.

**5.0 THE NEXT STEPS**

Following the above four-part process, policy strategy options will be prepared for consideration by the GVRD Board of Directors. At that time staff will undertake a comprehensive review of these policy options as it relates to Burnaby for the consideration of Council and submission to the Board. This will likely occur in about July.

This report is submitted for the information of Council.

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DIRECTOR PLANNING &  
BUILDING INSPECTION

