

ITEM 15
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 33
COUNCIL MEETING 91/05/21

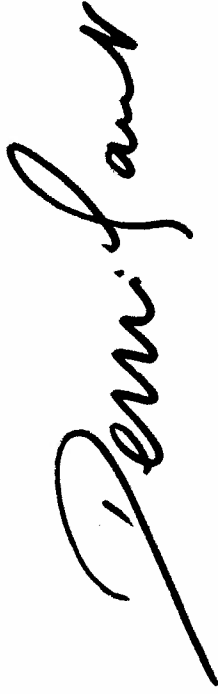
TO : MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1991 MAY 16
FROM : DIRECTOR RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES
RE : CORRESPONDENCE FROM MR. & MRS. GRIFFITHS OF 6551 SPERLING AVENUE
CONCERNING PARKING PROBLEMS AT BRANTFORD SCHOOL SPORT FIELD
PURPOSE : To respond to correspondence regarding parking and associated
problems at Brantford School Sport Field.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of the attached report be forwarded to Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths of 6551 Sperling Avenue.

REPORT

At its meeting of 1991 May 15, the Parks & Recreation Commission received the attached staff report on the above subject and adopted the recommendations contained therein.

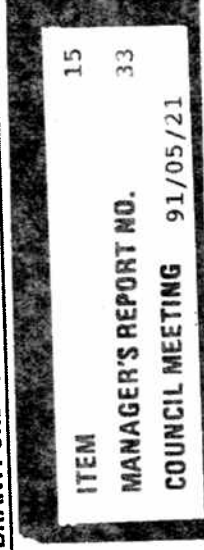


DENNIS GAUNT
DIRECTOR RECREATION &
CULTURAL SERVICES

tc
Attach.

cc: Supervisor Traffic
Secretary/Treasurer-Burnaby School Board

RE: CORRESPONDENCE FROM MR. & MRS. GRIFFITHS OF 6551 SPERLING AVENUE
CONCERNING PARKING PROBLEMS AT BRANTFORD SCHOOL SPORT FIELD



RECOMMENDATION:

135

1. THAT a copy of this report be provided to Municipal Council for information.
2. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths of 6551 Sperling Avenue.

REPORT

Attached is a copy of a letter dated 1991 April 30 from Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths which will appear as correspondence on the Council agenda of 1991 May 21.

The Griffiths' are writing to have resolved the problems of illegal parking in the lanes surrounding Brantford School, and the use of the bush areas as a "comfort" station.

The problem has been created by the users of the Brantford School sport field. The field is allocated by the Parks and Recreation Department to Burnaby Minor Softball Association. The softball program operates seven days a week April 15 to the end of July. The heaviest use is Monday to Thursday evenings. The parents and spectators for the games have been parking in the lanes bordering the field. This has generated the various parking problems identified in the letter.

Burnaby Parks Patrol staff and the Municipal traffic control officer have been involved on a few occasions to try and redirect the traffic. The problem has persisted.

The actions to be taken to resolve the parking problems are:

- (1) A traffic information sign will be posted at the entrances to the lanes advising that, parking in all Burnaby lanes is prohibited by Bylaw.
- (2) Information signs will be attached to the ball diamond back stops informing spectators of the parking restrictions.
- (3) The school parking lot will be made available for the field users.
- (4) Burnaby Parks Patrol will monitor the lane parking and inform patrons of the restrictions and if necessary call in the traffic control officer to enforce the parking Bylaw.
- (5) The Burnaby Minor Softball Association is notifying all its coaches and in turn the parents of the players of the parking restrictions and options. Future field allotments will include a reminder of the parking restrictions in the lanes.

If problems continue, the residents should call directly to the RCMP/Municipal Traffic Control officer for enforcement. (Tel. #294-7621).

With the elimination of the vehicles from the lane the concern for a crosswalk on the lane should be alleviated.

ITEM (SUPPLEMENTARY) 09
DIRECTOR'S REPORT NO. 10
MISSION MEETING 91/05/15

ITEM	15
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	33
COUNCIL MEETING	91/05/21

The other critical issue is the use of the school and park land for washroom purposes. This problem will be resolved by providing a portable washroom on the site for the duration of the season. This approach has worked successfully in other similar situations. The washrooms are kept locked during the school day and the Softball Association will be issued a key to access them during their game times.

Staff are confident these steps will resolve the problems generated by the Burnaby Minor Softball Association. There is, however, the possibility that roving unauthorized adult softball groups could use the site if and when the Minor Association is not present.

We have no way of influencing the unauthorized groups directly and will have to rely on their positive response to the signs and as necessary direct enforcement through the traffic officer.

Parks Staff and School District Staff will monitor the situation closely and take whatever follow-up action is necessary with the groups allotted the facility.

ND:lc
Attach.

cc: Supervisor Traffic
Secretary Treasurer Burnaby School District

ITEM 15
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 33
COUNCIL MEETING 91/05/21

137

Griffiths & Tonnelier Realty Ltd.

STE. 101 - 7257 KINGSWAY, BURNABY, B.C. V5E 1G5
526-9454

RECEIVED

April 30th, 1991

MAY 06 1991

MAYOR & COUNCIL,
CORP. OF DISTRICT OF BURNABY,
4900 Canada Way,
Burnaby, B.C.

MAYOR'S OFFICE

Dear Sirs:

re: lane parking-legal or no?

My wife and I live at 6551 Sperling Avenue. At the rear of our property is a municipal lane separating us from Brantford School. We have lived at this location since 1967, and have always found it to be a pleasant neighborhood.

Over the past few years, there has been a considerable increase in the use of the Brantford schoolgrounds for activities not directly related to the operation of the school. We are referring mainly to organized baseball and football games in the evenings and on weekends.

We are certainly in favor of such practical use of these grounds and would encourage even more activities, as long as they are in keeping with the residential character of our neighborhood.

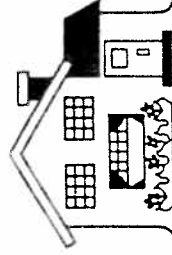
However, several problems have arisen in connection with this usage, which have become increasingly distressful to those of us who own properties abut the lane between us and the school. The most onerous being the parking of up to fifteen vehicles in this lane during the sports activities. This effectively denies us the use of our garage, there not being sufficient room to either drive in or back in with the restriction of the road surface. Additionally, the congestion, both at the back of our properties and at the pedestrian "walk-thru" just to the south of our direct neighbor, a practise which someday, will surely result in a serious accident, most likely involving a younger child attracted to the sporting activities and carelessly crossing between these parked vehicles.

A second problem, which usually only occurs during the weekend games, is the use of the bushes and the side of the buildings, as "comfort" stations, during prolonged game sessions. We find this offensive, in that most of the area is visible directly from our sun-deck!

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION cont.

AGENDA - 1991 MAY 21

- COPY - MUNICIPAL MANAGER
- DIRECTOR ADMIN. & COMM. SERVICES
- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING
- DIRECTOR RECREATION & CULTURAL SERV. (FOR REPORT)



CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
1991 MAY 21

ITEM (SUPPLEMENTARY) 09
DIRECTOR'S REPORT NO. 10
COMMISSION MEETING 91/05/15

ITEM 15
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 33
COUNCIL MEETING 91/05/21

- 2 -

We would like to determine a number of factors in connection with the continued use of these facilities for "extra-curricular" events.

(a) is it legal or permissible to park in what we have been told are "fire lanes" and if so is there a time limit and/or a method of parking correctly? Could no parking signs be erected?

(b) can parking be provided off-street in the school board parking lot?

(c) is it legal or permissible to vacate ones bladder (or worse) in public?

(d) whose responsibility is it for assigning the use of these grounds, the School Board, or the Park Board?

(e) has the installation of washrooms been considered?

(f) are there "user fees" attached to the use of these grounds?

(g) on whose head does the "axe" fall if there is a compensable injury caused by a deficiency at the facilities?

(h) and lastly, whose responsibility is it, if any of the rules or regulations regarding the use of the grounds or parking regulations are in violation?

We have not wanted to appear as "carping" neighbors in connection with these activities, and in fact, both ourselves and our neighbors to the south, the Alcocks, have quietly spoken to people and asked them politely to move their vehicles when they are directly blocking access to our yards. Unfortunately, they are not always willing to move their cars and we dislike the continual confrontation we have to experience in doing this.

Our neighbor, Mr. Alcock, has 'phoned both the school board and the park board, but has been unable to achieve any concrete answers as to responsibilities. Last evening, April 29th, 1991 the lane was blocked with cars parked entirely on the school ground side. Obviously someone, has attempted to ease our concerns in some manner. However, being unable to turn into my garage, we felt it necessary to 'phone, at 7:22 PM, the non-emergency Burnaby RCMP number. After a short wait, we were able, at 7:24 PM to make a "complaint" to an un-identified male operator, who requested and was given our name, address and 'phone number. At 7:40 PM we took several pictures of the problem and at 7:55 PM a municipal traffic control officer appeared on the scene and had the offending vehicles moved. We were pleased with this "response-time"!

cont.

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1991 MAY 21

ITEM (SUPPLEMENTARY) 09
DIRECTOR'S REPORT NO. 10
COMMISSION MEETING 91/05/15



139

- 3 -

We would appreciate having the council or whatever appropriate body, address our concerns at an early date and advise us in writing, what steps will be taken, and who we should contact if these problems re-occur, before a lasting solution is found. Thank you for your prompt consideration.

Yours truly,

Bill & Bonnie Griffiths

BILL & BONNIE GRIFFITHS,
6551 Sperling Avenue,
Burnaby, B.C., V5E 2V3
(604)435-4919

- CC - Chairman Traffic & Transportation Comm.- ALDERMAN YOUNG
4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C.
- Public Relations Officer, School Board of Burnaby
5325 Kincaid Street, Burnaby, B.C.
- Public Relations Officer, Parks & Recreation Department,
4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C.
- MR. & MRS. R. ALCOCK,
6591 Sperling Ave., Burnaby, B.C. V5E 2V3