

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY

COMMUNITY ISSUES AND SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND ALDERMEN

1991 JUNE 14

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY ISSUES &
SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

RE: COMMUNITY CONSULTATION ON SOCIAL PLANNING IN METROTOWN

The Community Issues and Social Planning Committee recommends:

1. THAT Council approve the Community Issues and Social Planning Committee's endorsement and sponsorship of the community consultation process on social planning in Metrotown which is outlined in this report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

At its meeting of 1989 May 08, Council adopted the goals, objectives, activities and timelines for social planning in Metrotown, as outlined in the report "A Program for Social Planning in Metrotown". The Program had emerged from a two year consultative process involving Municipal staff and the Burnaby Inter-Agency Council. Many of the ideas in the program derived from a series of community workshops held in 1987.

Since its adoption, staff have been working to implement the Metrotown Social Planning Program, with input from the Social Planning Staff Liaison Group and the Community Issues and Social Planning Committee. One objective of the Program is to develop a vehicle through which agencies, community groups and the public can offer suggestions regarding social planning concerns in Metrotown on an ongoing basis. Given this objective and the rapid pace of change in Metrotown since the Social Planning Program was developed, an ad hoc advisory group of six persons was struck in 1991 May to help staff plan and implement a community consultation process. The advisory group is composed of a Municipal staff member from Social Planning and Health and four individuals representing persons with disabilities, church congregations, service providers and businesses in Metrotown. To date, the advisory group has met twice to develop its proposal for the community consultation.

2.0 THE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION PROCESS

The proposal developed by the advisory group for the consultation consists of a public information display followed by a community symposium.

2.1 Public Information Display

The objectives of the display are as follows:

- a) to raise public awareness of Metrotown's planned metamorphosis to a high density, urban town centre;
- b) to raise public awareness of the Metrotown Social Planning Program and social planning initiatives to date;

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- c) to solicit public comment on social planning issues and initiatives in Metrotown; and
- d) to advertise the symposium.

The display will consist of maps, "then and now" photographs, and information on changes and trends in population and commercial, office and residential development in Metrotown. The major components of the Social Planning Program and achievements to date will also be highlighted. Public comment on social planning issues and initiatives will be solicited through the use of a short questionnaire to be completed at the display. The date, location and registration information for the community symposium will be advertised at the display.

The display will be placed in three or four venues in Metrotown for a period of two to three days each in early to mid-September, 1991. The Bob Prittie Metrotown Library, Bonsor Recreation Complex and Eaton Centre and Metrotown Centre shopping malls will be contacted regarding availability of display space. The display will be staffed by two persons: a Municipal staff member and a volunteer from one of the constituencies represented on the advisory group. Consideration is being given to having some components of the display prepared in several languages and, if possible, to having a bi- or multi-lingual volunteer.

2.2 Community Symposium

As well as sharing the first two objectives outlined for the display, the sponsoring of a symposium will attempt to achieve the following additional objectives:

- a) to solicit public feedback on the Metrotown Social Planning Program;
- b) to identify current and future social planning issues in Metrotown;
- c) to identify possible initiatives to respond to social planning issues; and
- d) to assess community opinion on the formation and composition of an ongoing informal Metrotown advisory group to assist staff in addressing social planning concerns.

Possible symposium participants will be reached in a number of ways including:

- : invitations to a wide cross-section of the Metrotown community, including service providers, churches, interest groups, businesses, service clubs and sports and leisure organizations;
- : public information display
- : the August issue of "Information Burnaby";
- : community newspapers e.g. Burnaby Now, Burnaby News
- : community television
- : press releases

At present, three identical symposium sessions are planned, although the number can be modified to reflect demand. Participants will be requested to pre-register for the session of their choice. It is proposed to offer a morning, an afternoon and an evening session of three hours each. The sessions will be limited to twenty-five to thirty participants each in order to promote frank and informal discussion.

The sessions will be held in late September or early October in one location. Bob Prittie Metrotown Library, Bonsor Recreation Centre and the Eaton Centre Community Room will be contacted regarding availability of space.

3.0 BUDGET

Although not specifically included in the 1991 budget, the Municipal Manager has directed that the \$1,000 estimated funding requirement be charged to the Planning & Building Inspection Department budget with an adjustment at recast budget time, if necessary.

Advertisement in community newspapers (four 1/4 page ads) \$900.00
Refreshments at symposium sessions (coffee, juice) 70.00
Display materials 30.00

\$1,000.00

4.0 CONCLUSION

The Community Issues and Social Planning Committee requests that Council approve the Committee's endorsement and sponsorship of the community consultation process on social planning in Metrotown which is outlined in this report.

The Committee expects to report back to the Council with the results of the consultation process in late 1991.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alderman E. Nikolai
Chairman

Alderman J. Young
Vice Chair

Alderman D.G. Evans
Member

Alderman D.A. Lawson
Member

Alderman C.M.H. Redman
Member

