

ITEM 10
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 22
COUNCIL MEETING 92/03/30

TO: ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1992 MARCH 24

FROM: ACTING CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY COUNCIL 1992 MARCH 09 AND 1992 MARCH 23 - CONCERNING UNSIGHTLY PREMISES, INADEQUATE LIGHTING, AND CRIME IN THE AREA OF KINGSWAY AND 15TH AVENUE, BURNABY, B.C.

PURPOSE: TO ADVISE COUNCIL OF ACTION TAKEN IN REGARDS TO THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE CORRESPONDENCE.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to:
 - a) Rita Lockhart, Property Manager, Southwood Estates, Gateway West Management Corporation, #400-1665 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C., V6J 1X1.
 - b) Peter J. Berry, 14-7559 Humphries Court, Burnaby, B.C., V3N 4K9.
 - c) L.S. Owens, 8-7561 Humphries Court, Burnaby, B.C., V3N 4K9.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

In correspondence received by Council 1992 March 09 and 1992 March 23 two residents and the property manager of Southwood Estates N.W. 2155 expressed concerns regarding nearby unsightly properties, inadequate lighting at the cul-de-sac end of the 7400 block 15th Avenue, and the criminal activity which these conditions may promote.

2.0 UNSIGHTLY PREMISES:

The property at 7536 Kingsway, adjacent to the walkway between the cul-de-sac and Kingsway, was a concern to all correspondents. This property is vacant and contravenes the Unsightly Premises Bylaw by reason of two wrecked vehicles, litter and debris on the property.

The owner of the property has been notified in writing to clear the property of this material by 1992 April 01. Failure to comply will result in Environmental Health Services requesting the Director Engineering to do the necessary work with all costs being assessed against the

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owner. The property is also covered with an extensive overgrowth of blackberry vines. Although this is not considered a contravention of the Unsightly Premises Bylaw we are attempting to contact the property owner directly and will be encouraging him to remove or significantly reduce this overgrowth.

The vacant properties at 7543 Kingsway and 7585 Kingsway, on the south side of Kingsway, were mentioned as a concern by correspondents Mr. Berry and Ms. Owens. These adjacent properties have a history of unauthorized dumping and of clean-up being required. In 1991 December, upon failure of the owner to clean-up these properties, Burnaby Engineering cleaned the site of a large amount of debris and billed the owner for all costs. Upon receipt of the recent correspondence an inspection revealed that a significant amount of debris, including scrap appliances, carpeting, and other material had again been dumped on the properties. After verbal notification, a representative of the property owner arranged immediate clean-up and the site is presently clear of debris. The vacant buildings are securely boarded up and the owner's representative denies they are being used for any commercial activity at the present time. The owner's representative has been encouraged to appropriately barricade the site against vehicle entry to discourage unauthorized dumping. Environmental Health staff will periodically inspect these properties to ensure that they are kept free of debris.

3.0 LIGHTING:

With regard to the requests for additional lighting at the end of the 15th Avenue cul-de-sac, the Director Engineering advises as follows:

"The 'park' referred to in the letter is the property of the Strata Corporation and is not a Municipal park. There is a walkway located on a public access easement through this property. The easement does not allow for the placement of Municipally owned lights.

There is also a B.C. Hydro overhead line running through this property on a utility easement. There is a pole on the Municipal road allowance at the end of the cul-de-sac that may be suitable for the installation of a B.C. Hydro lease light. If approved by B.C. Hydro, this light will provide lighting for the end of the cul-de-sac, the end of the barricaded lane north of Kingsway, and for part of the walkway and 'park' area. The Engineering Department will contact B.C. Hydro to request the installation of a lease light on this pole."

4.0 CRIME IN THE AREA:

Attached is a report from the Officer-in-Charge, R.C.M.P., regarding action that is being taken by the police in response to the incidence of crime in the area.

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5.0 SUMMARY:

The owner of property at 7536 Kingsway, has been notified to remove the wrecked automobiles, litter and debris, from his property by 1992 April 01. Failure to comply will result in the Municipal workers attending to the required clean-up with all costs being assessed against the owner. Since receipt of the initial correspondence, the properties at 7543 Kingsway and 7585 Kingsway have been cleared of all debris by the owner and periodic checks will be conducted by Environmental Health staff to ensure they are kept clean. The vacant buildings on site are presently secure. The Director Engineering has advised that he will be requesting of B.C. Hydro the installation of a lease light on a pole at the end of the 15th Street cul-de-sac to improve lighting in the area. The Officer in Charge, Burnaby Detachment, R.C.M.P. has reported to Council separately on concerns with crime in the area.



K.C. Johnston, C.P.H.I.(C)
ACTING CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

VGE/KCJ/dd

Attachment

cc: Medical Health Officer
Director Administrative &
Community Services
Director Engineering
Officer In Charge - Burnaby
Detachment, R.C.M.P.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

1992 MARCH 26

FROM: OFFICER IN CHARGE, BURNABY DETACHMENT R.C.M.P. 140

SUBJECT: CRIME TRENDS INVOLVING BREAK & ENTERS, THEFTS, VANDALISM AND DRUGS IN THE AREA OF #14 - 7559 HUMPHRIES COURT.

PURPOSE: To inform Council on the crime trends and how the incidents of crime may be reduced.

REPORT

The location of #14 - 7559 Humphries Court is situated within our geographical area of Atom C14, Zone 3. The following lists the criminal activity reported during the period of January 01, 1990 to February 17, 1992.

OFFENCE ATOM C14 HUMPHRIES CRT COMPLEX

B&E	85	15
PROPERTY DAMAGE OVER 1000	2	0
PROPERTY DAMAGE UNDER 1000	143	13
ROBBERY	4	0
SEXUAL ASSAULT	4	0
THEFT OF AUTO	63	3
THEFT FROM AUTO	130	16

The area boundaries consists of Edmonds Street, Canada Way, 14th Avenue and Kingsway. With the size of this area, the statistics are not overly excessive in comparison with the whole area except Break and Enters, registering approximately 18%.

The buildings are designed with depressed alcoves from both ground to upper floors of the residences. Viewing the property, the alcoves provide a sanctuary for entry. Other areas of the complex are good ie: security gate for underground parking which no doubt has reduced thefts.

The absence of area lighting is definitely a factor to illuminate the park and cul-de-sac to which Mr. Berry refers. We concur for the need for lighting, however, the Burnaby Engineering Department notes the area of 15th and the cul-de sac is strata property. Although there is a public access easement, the strata could install lighting if they desired.

The problem of drugs being dispensed behind the 7526 Kingsway area was addressed by our Drug Squad and they agree if the area

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was cleaned up with vehicles moved, the activity would subside or cease. They will be continuing to monitor this situation.

Our National Crime Intelligence Squad have monitored the increased activity of the prostitution frequenting the area from 14th Avenue to 18th Avenue and made a recent arrest. They recommend any observations made by the residents of Humphries Court, re: "girls on the street", that they should contact the police office.

The concerns of the residents are well taken and the following police action will continue:

- a) Re-emphasize through Block Watch to be more vigilant in observing and reporting suspicious behaviour.
- b) Zone personnel will focus on the area of Humphries Court for more patrols.
- c) Drug Squad will continue to monitor this area.
- d) The auxiliary police will target this area for foot patrols.
- e) This area will be targeted by the Bicycle Squad upon inception in April 92.

In conclusion, the resident's comments are well taken and with the assistance of the residents of Humphries Court, the combination of efforts should reduce the incidents of crime in this area.



(B.A. Beaudreau), Superintendent
Officer in Charge
Burnaby Detachment

cc: Director of Administrative and Community Services

