

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY

CIVIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

His Worship, The Mayor  
And Aldermen:

RE: Proposal To Complete The Development  
of the Metrotown Civic Centre Plaza  
At The Corner of Central Boulevard And  
McKay Avenue

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council bring down a bylaw in the amount of \$150,000 to fund the design and construction of the southeast corner of the Metrotown Civic Centre Plaza.

REPORT

"A. Introduction:

The recently constructed Metrotown Civic Facilities project included the Bob Prittie Metrotown Library, the Burnaby Civic Square, underground parking garage, and associated boulevard and landscape provisions.

During the tendering period in February of 1989, the total landscaping development proposal could not be pursued due to the fact that two of the remaining privately-owned properties on McKay Avenue had not yet been purchased by the municipality. These properties, including the last property at 6267 McKay Avenue, were subsequently acquired in 1991 August.

Except for the site at 6267 McKay Avenue and a lane to the north of the property, landscape development has been completed. This landscape development integrates the library and the Civic Square as well as the future development site adjacent to McKay Avenue which has been cleared of buildings and landscaped as an attractive interim open space area. Direct pedestrian access is encouraged at the four corner intersections through special plaza and landscape features, with diagonal walkways from these intersections into the main Civic Square space.

The two corner plazas along Central Boulevard also serve as major visual gateways and major walkways into the civic centre along this important frontage. The corner at Central Boulevard and Willingdon Avenue has been fully developed. The remaining undeveloped corner is at the Central Boulevard and McKay Avenue intersection. The development of this corner, as envisaged to match the already developed corner, will complete the overall Civic Square landscaping for the foreseeable future and provide a sense of a completely finished landscape experience for users and visitors to the civic centre. The completion of these landscaping elements is desirable in light of the fact that further major cultural components have not been connected and will likely not be pursued in the near future.

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This landscape development will also provide for a complete, high quality connection and gateway for the primary pedestrian linkage between the Metrotown commercial core, bus loop, and Skytrain Station, and the library, Civic Square, and public parking components of the Metrotown Civic Centre complex.

This completion is also desirable in light of Burnaby's centennial and the important role that the Civic Square will play as an appropriate setting for centennial celebrations planned in 1992.

B. Proposed Development and Funding

The Architect's proposed design to complete the southeast corner of the Civic Square is in keeping with the details and quality finishes currently used on site. The estimated construction cost is \$135,000 and includes such features as walkways, lighting, wall, entry plaza, pavers, lawn irrigation, circular concrete planters, trees, removal of hydro pole, associated boulevard treatment, and crossing removal.

The treatment area also includes a redundant lane way directly north of 6267 McKay Avenue. In this regard, the Director of Engineering concurs with the proposal to close the lane and have it consolidated with the overall site. Upon Council approval, staff will take the necessary steps to complete the consolidation in the near future.

To ensure consistency throughout the design and construction phases, staff recommends that James K.M. Cheng Architects and their consultants be retained for this project, with total fees estimated in the range of \$15,000.

Funds for this work have been included in the 1992 Capital Program. In order to proceed with the design and construction of the project, it will be necessary for the Civic Development Committee to request that Council bring down a bylaw which would appropriate \$150,000 from Capital Reserves to fund the completion of the Metrotown Civic Centre. Once the necessary funding is in place, staff will direct the Architects to complete the tender documents with the intention of completing the construction and landscaping in the spring of 1992."

Respectfully submitted,

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Alderman D.R. Corrigan  
Chairperson

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Alderman D.G. Evans  
Member

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Alderman E. Nikolai  
Member