

TO: CITY MANAGER 1995 April 05

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

SUBJECT: PHASE II - BURNABY MOUNTAIN URBAN TRAIL  
- BROADWAY PORTION

PURPOSE: To respond to an item of correspondence regarding tree removal on Broadway.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Linda Anne Gomez at 8260 Rosswood Place, Burnaby, B.C., V5A 3V5.

**REPORT**

Elsewhere on this Agenda is an item of correspondence from Linda Anne Gomez expressing concern regarding the extent of tree removal on the urban trail currently under construction along Broadway, between Arden Avenue and Underhill Avenue.

The construction of Phase Two of the Burnaby Mountain Urban Trail from Shellmont Street to Production Way is a joint project of the Engineering, Parks & Recreation and Planning & Building Departments. The trail development incorporates a 4.0 metre wide asphalt trail within the north side of the Broadway right-of-way. To date clearing, grubbing and earthworks have been completed, the granular base materials and drainage works have been installed, and at this time the trail is generally ready to receive the asphalt paving and landscaping.

The Broadway section of the trail is approximately 630 metres in length. A mixture of alder, poplar and associated understorey vegetation had established on the north portion of the street right-of-way for a length of approximately 390 metres. The remainder of the block, approximately 240 metres, was grassed and did not have any existing trees.

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Adjacent to the residential area on the north side of Broadway, an existing wooded buffer area serves to screen the homes from the street and from industrial developments in the area. As requested by residents this treed area was entirely retained and additional tree planting has been provided within the buffer as part of the urban trail project.

The attached Sketch #1 indicates the alignment of the urban trail and shows where trees were removed from the right-of-way in the centre area of the block for a length of approximately 280 metres.

In this area the trail was constructed as close as possible to the north property line with minimum allowances provided for clearance to existing fences and for backslopes as required to meet existing grades. This alignment provides for a trail in the final location relative to future roadway requirements outlined in the Burnaby Transportation Plan and also allows for the maximum landscaped boulevard space between the trail and the roadway.

In the area where clearing occurred it was not practical to retain the narrow strip of existing trees that would have remained between the trail and the roadway. A considerable portion of the affected area required substantial earth removal and regrading to deal with unsuitable slopes. Two sections required replacement of storm drainage structures crossing through the boulevard and the remaining section was considered very susceptible to blow-down given the growth habit of the trees which were leaning out toward the roadway. For these reasons, restorative planting was proposed for this area where trees were to be removed.

Sketch #1 also indicates the area of the Broadway right-of-way toward Underhill where the trail was constructed over an existing pipeline corridor and where the existing trees were protected and retained for an approximate length of 110 metres.

Restorative planting planned as part of the urban trail project will establish a naturalistic character along the entire Broadway boulevard from east of Arden to Underhill. This concept for the trail landscaping will expand the remaining treed area along the boulevard and will reinforce the existing treed buffer area north of the trail. Additional screening of the fence along the Shell facility will also be pursued.

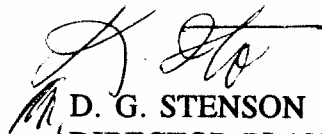
It should be noted that some degree of visibility of the trail from the road is desirable as a safety measure. The composition and layout of the proposed planting treatment will reflect this concern as well.

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In summary, the removal of the noted trees along Broadway was considered necessary for construction of the urban trail to a suitable engineering standard as a high quality permanent facility. Landscaping planned for completion of the trail corridor will serve as a replacement for removed trees and will further enhance the overall greenway character of the boulevard along Broadway.

This is for the information of Council.



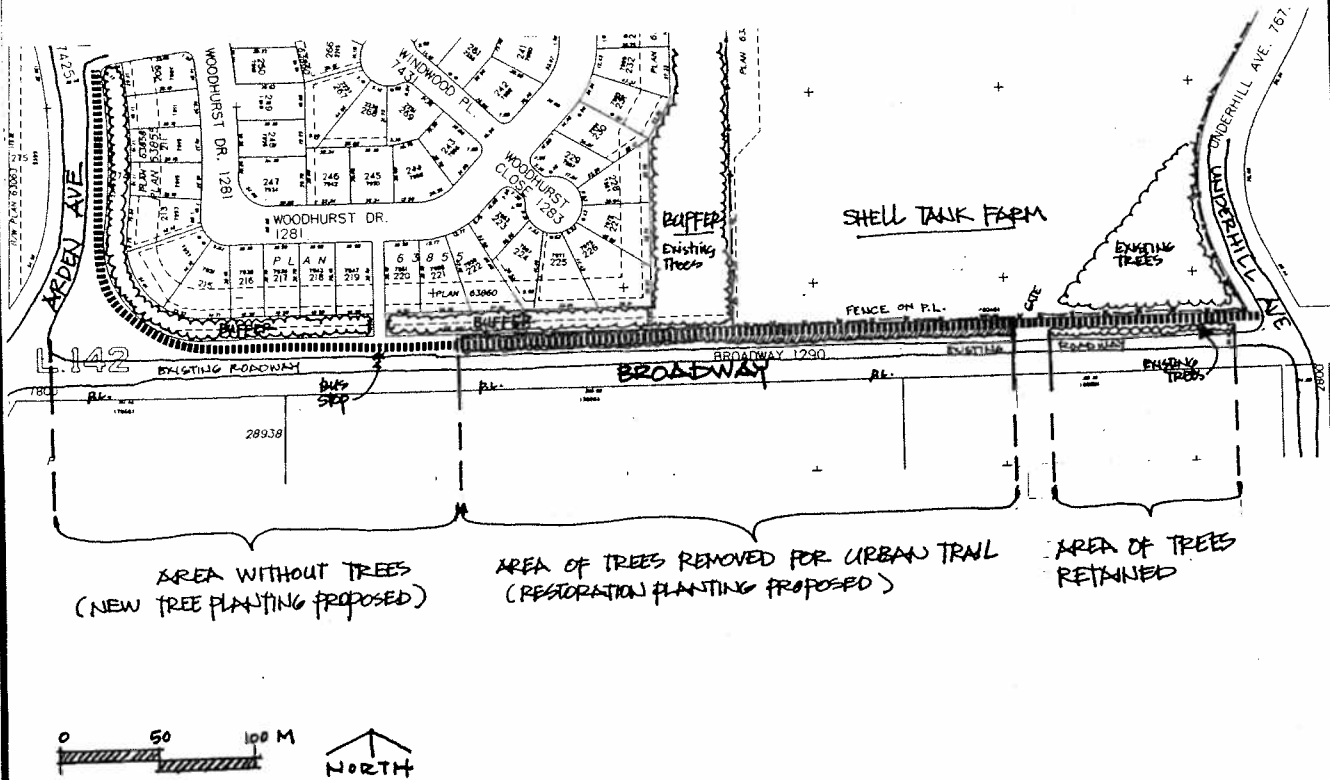
D. G. STENSON  
DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING



KR:lf  
Attach.

cc: Director Engineering  
Director Recreation & Cultural Services

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Date: 95 April 05

Scale: AS SHOWN

Drawn By: FR



City of Burnaby

Planning & Building Dept.

PHASE TWO

URBAN TRAIL ON BROADWAY

SKETCH # 1.