

ITEM	06
MANAGER'S REPORT #	16
COUNCIL MEETING	96/06/10

TO : CITY MANAGER

DATE: 1996 JUNE 06

FROM : DIRECTOR RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: INTERURBAN TRAMS SITUATION REPORT

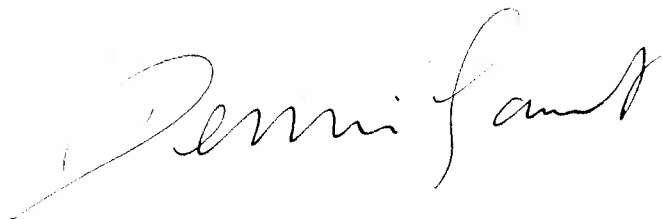
PURPOSE: To advise Council that Tram 1207 is no longer an option and no major improvement for Tram 1223 is proposed until such time as a final disposition has been made of Tram 1231 by B.C. Transit.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

At its meeting of 1996 June 05 the Parks and Recreation Commission received the attached staff report on the above subject and adopted the recommendation contained therein.



DENNIS GAUNT
DIRECTOR RECREATION AND
CULTURAL SERVICES

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Attachment

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SUBJECT: INTERURBAN TRAMS SITUATION REPORT

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to City Council for information purposes.

INTRODUCTION:

On 1995 November 06, City Council received correspondence from the Burnaby Historical Society requesting that consideration be given to restoration of Burnaby's Tram 1223 (The Red Bullet).

Council referred the topic to the Community Heritage Commission who agreed to support the restoration in principle pending receipt of a Parks and Recreation Commission report on the overall subject of restoration and acquisition of interurban trams for Burnaby Village Museum.

Council referred the topic to the Parks and Recreation Commission where the matter is still under review awaiting the disposition of Tram 1231 by B.C. Transit.

This report is an update on the current situation. Future reports will be brought forward when further action becomes possible.

REPORT

Due to the critical significance of the 1891 inter-urban tram system to the establishment of our city in 1892 and to our city's subsequent development, Burnaby Village Museum has been investigating the possibility of an operating tram system at the Museum. Three trams have been under consideration and are detailed below. Trams in Burnaby normally operated in linked pairs. All of the trams have wooden bodies on metal frames.

The tram presently owned by Burnaby is # 1223 (The Red Bullet). It is in poor condition and is incomplete. The Museum staff have been looking for another tram to complement it, as well as looking at possibilities for restoration, tram housing, track and operating power.

TRAM 1207 ("Richmond Rocket")

This tram is owned by Messrs. Thrash & Cole. It is stored in Coquitlam and is now going to Vancouver for use around False Creek. It is no longer an option for Burnaby. Its design is also different from the following two.

TRAM 1223 ("The Red Bullet")

This tram is at Burnaby Village Museum. Tram 1223 was used in Burnaby up until the end of the tram service in the 1950's. It was then displayed at Kingsway and Edmonds. In 1971 it's ownership was passed to the Museum by the Burnaby Historical Society and it is now owned by the City of Burnaby.

The tram was vandalized while stored at Kingsway and Edmonds in earlier years. Preventive conservation is ongoing to stabilize the vehicle. The undercarriage was cleaned by the Museum Conservator and a preservative applied. Exploratory conservation work is underway inside the tram.

TRAM 1231

This tram is owned by B.C. Transit which is looking at handing it over to another organization, with some strings attached. They will be calling for proposals within a month or so. Four groups are being approached to submit proposals:

1. Burnaby Village Museum
2. A Steveston group (volunteers restoring Tram 1230)
3. The West Coast Railway Association
4. A Victoria group.

Status: Presently in Victoria. About \$300,000 has been spent so far and it is about 80% cosmetically restored. It is not restored mechanically, but could be made to run.

This tram is a twin to the one at Burnaby Village Museum and ideally suited as the other half of the pair.

CONCLUSION:

Tram 1207 (Thrash & Cole - 'Richmond Rocket') is no longer an option except for routine stabilization work. No major improvements will be carried out to Tram 1223 (Burnaby's tram - 'The Red Bullet') until such time as a final disposition has been made of Tram 1231 (B.C. Transit tram located in Victoria).

At that time, a report will be brought back recommending some renovation to Tram 1223 ('The Red Bullet') the extent of the recommended renovation will depend on B.C. Transit's disposition of Tram 1231.

It would be appropriate to recommend that copies of this interim report be sent to the Community Heritage Commission and Burnaby Historical Society.

