

REPORT
1996 MARCH 25

CITY OF BURNABY

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
(TRAFFIC SAFETY DIVISION)

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS

C. TRAFFIC SAFETY AT ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL

RECOMMENDATION:

1. *THAT* Council forward a copy of this report to Mr. Dwayne McNee of 3786 Cambridge Street, Burnaby, B.C. V5C 1G1.

REPORT

The Traffic and Transportation Committee (Traffic Safety Division), at its meeting held on 1996 March 05, adopted the attached staff report responding to concerns expressed by Mr. Dwayne McNee regarding traffic safety along Alpha Street adjacent Alpha Secondary School.

Staff advised that, from an engineering viewpoint, the ability to reduce or alleviate the speeding which exists at this location is limited to the installation of traffic calming devices such as speed bumps. Staff will be contacting Mr. McNee to inform him of the process for implementing humps through the L.I.P. speed hump program.

MEMBERS:

Mr. N. Smith
Mr. M. Bloomfield
Mrs. M. Canessa
Mr. E. Fourchalk
Ms. L. Kapp
Mrs. D. Mumford
Mr. D. Ramsbotham
Mr. D. Richardson

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Young
Chairman

Councillor D. Evans
Member

: COPY - CITY MANAGER
- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING
- OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, R.C.M.P.

City of Burnaby

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

TO: TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE DATE: 1996 02 23

FROM: ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING, FILE:
TRAFFIC & ENGINEERING SYSTEMS

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC SAFETY AT ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL

PURPOSE: To respond to safety concerns raised by Mr. Dwayne McNee in correspondence and as a delegation.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mr. Dwayne McNee of 3786 Cambridge Street, Burnaby, B.C.

REPORT

Appearing on the Traffic Safety Committee Agenda for its 1995 November meeting was correspondence from the School Board annexing a letter to the Board from Mr. Dwayne McNee. Mr. McNee subsequently appeared before the Committee as a delegation to describe traffic safety problems particularly along Alpha Street adjacent to the school. Mr. McNee described excessive speeding, congestion and a general lack of consideration for other drivers. He noted that the offending drivers are students at the school or other young drivers picking up their friends who attend the school.

Mr. McNee was also concerned with a recent incident where one of the school's pupils had been injured as a pedestrian. Subsequent review by the RCMP confirmed that this incident had occurred at Hastings and Willingdon which is a signalized intersection some distance from the school.

We have visited this area on a number of occasions and can confirm what Mr. McNee has described. Staff have reviewed the existing school signage and found it appropriate. We also met with the principal of Alpha Secondary to discuss the traffic problems. Arising from the discussion, it was reconfirmed that the majority of vehicular congestion on the road can be attributed to the increasing trend of parents/friends picking up and dropping off pupils as well as more students using their own vehicles to travel to school. The observed problems are similar to the activity that is prevalent at the majority of secondary schools throughout Burnaby. However, the concentration of activity along

Traffic Safety at Alpha Secondary School
1996 02 23

this two block stretch of Alpha Street amplifies the situation.

From an Engineering viewpoint, the ability to reduce or alleviate the speeding which exists at this location is limited to the installation of traffic calming devices such as speed humps. We will be contacting Mr. McNee to inform him of the process for implementing humps through the L.I.P. speed hump program. This will require some participation by Alpha Street residents. We will be "fine tuning" the parking and stopping regulations with a view to addressing issues such as corner clearances. However, more significant restrictions to limit activity adjacent the school would be counterproductive, tending to shift and re-concentrate the problem if indeed the regulations could be enforced sufficiently to ensure compliance.

This issue is not one that can be solved through traffic engineering measures. Nor can limited enforcement resources be expected to resolve these traffic safety concerns, as at issue is a driver behaviour/attitude problem that is endemic at all secondary schools. Accordingly staff recommend a mix of approaches including community involvement and education. We understand that Mr. McNee is active as a volunteer in community policing and aware of the resources such as the Burnaby Safety Society and trust he will participate in the deployment of these resources in conjunction with other parents and the school principal. We have also forwarded copies of this report to the Burnaby School Board and ICBC as both of these parties are the most appropriate sponsors of driver education initiatives at Burnaby Secondary Schools.



ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING,
TRAFFIC & ENG. SYSTEMS

AE:ma

cc: City Manager
RCMP-Traffic Section
Burnaby Safety Society (Attn: Drew McArthur)
Burnaby School Board (Attn: Mitch Bloomfield)
ICBC (Attn: Mavis Johnston)

