TO:

CITY MANAGER

1996 August 20

FROM:

DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

SUBJECT:

REQUEST FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DWELLING

3913 THURSTON STREET - METROTOWN AREA 11

Lot 2, D.L. 34, Plan 7565 Except: Plan Pcl. A EP Plan 15530

PURPOSE:

To inform Council of a request to construct a new dwelling within Metrotown

Area 11.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

The potential purchaser of the property at 3913 Thurston Street (see <u>attached</u> Sketch #1) has submitted a letter requesting permission to construct a new dwelling on the subject property in accordance with the existing Residential District (R5) zoning which would also require the demolition of an existing older smaller dwelling. The lot, which measures 12.19 m (40 ft.) by 30.18 m (99 ft.) with an area of 368 m² (3,960 sq. ft.) is located within the Council-adopted Metrotown Area 11 Development Plan (see <u>attached</u> Sketch #2). This block is designated for Comprehensive Development townhouse proposals on suitable consolidated sites using the RM1 zoning district and a maximum density of 20 - 25 units per acre as guidelines. The property was bought by the present owner in 1990 November.

Within the block bounded by Thurston Street, Smith Avenue, Bond Street and Inman Avenue are 26 properties, all occupied by dwellings of various sizes, including four duplexes, and of various ages and conditions and maturity of surrounding landscaping, including a number of new dwellings and two older dwellings at 5488 Smith Avenue and 5457 Inman Avenue, listed on the preliminary heritage inventory. All of the dwellings, even the smaller older ones, appear from the exterior to be well maintained. Ten of the properties could be considered small lots while the balance are of substantial size. The property abutting the subject property to the west is of similar size while the two properties to the north and east accommodate larger dwellings in good condition.

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In light of this block review, as has been noted in several previous reports on requests for the construction of new dwellings in this block, it appears that the redevelopment of this block in accordance with the adopted Development Plan for townhouses on appropriately consolidated sites is unlikely in the immediate future. However, should a new dwelling be permitted on the subject property, it would strengthen the existing single and two-family dwelling character of the block, potentially leading to further applications for new dwellings to replace some of the other older, smaller dwellings nearby.

Overall, considering the existence of some new and large dwellings within the subject block and the well maintained nature of other existing houses in the block, this department, unless otherwise directed by Council, would be prepared to release a building permit for a new dwelling at 3913 Thurston Street subject to full compliance with the existing R5 Residential District and requirements of the Chief Building Inspector.

This is for the information of Council.

D. G. Stenson

Director Planning and Building

FA:hr Attach.

cc: Chief Building Inspector



