

TO: CITY MANAGER

DATE: 1998 03 31

FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

FILE: 55-07-05

SUBJECT: NOISE VARIANCE APPLICATION FOR
TRANS CANADA HIGHWAY HOV LANE CONSTRUCTION -
DEMOLITION OF INSIDE BRIDGE PARAPETS

PURPOSE: To inform Council of a noise variance application received from B.A. Blacktop Ltd. for night time demolition work for a six week period starting on 1998 April 14 as a part of the Trans Canada Highway HOV lane project.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

An application for noise variance has been received from B.A. Blacktop Ltd. for the purpose of demolishing the bridge parapets on the Trans Canada Highway at Brunette River, Burlington Northern and North Road bridges located in Burnaby as a part of the HOV lane construction project.

The following report outlines details of the noise variance request including the conditions for granting the subject noise variance.

2.0 DISCUSSION

For Council's information, the Burnaby Noise or Sound Abatement Bylaw restricts construction, repair and demolition related activity to the following days and times: 07:00 a.m. to 08:00 p.m. Monday to Friday; and 09:00 a.m. to 08:00p.m. on Saturday (with no construction on Sunday).

Any variation from the noted days and times requires filing of a noise variance application pursuant to Section 15(4) of the bylaw. A variance is granted only after the applicant has demonstrated that all options have been pursued but for specific reasons, for example, public safety, work cannot be undertaken within the allowable times.

According to the subject application B.A. Blacktop Ltd., in conjunction with the Ministry of Transportation & Highways, has looked at all options to complete this work during the day time. However, due to the existing width of the bridges, a lane closure would be required. Unfortunately, with the high volume of day time traffic a lane closure would create significant delays to traffic flow. As such, a variance is requested for the noted work to take place from 10:00 p.m. to 05:00 a.m. excluding Friday and Saturday for a period of six weeks starting 1998 April 14. The contractor expects that it will take approximately two weeks for the demolition at each of the bridge locations.

In an effort to reduce the amount of demolition work at night, B.A. Blacktop Ltd. has modified their schedule so that the existing outside bridge parapets will be removed during the day time.


As a part of the approval of the subject noise variance, staff will require that the following conditions be met by the applicant:

- ▶ A draft notification letter along with the proposed geographical notification area must be submitted to staff for approval prior to undertaking a door to door delivery to the neighbouring residents. The notification letter must include the following information as a minimum: the nature and duration of work; the reasons for undertaking the work at night; name(s) and cellular phone number(s) of the on-site person(s) who can be reached at anytime during the night to respond to any queries.
- ▶ The approved notification letter must be delivered to the neighbouring residents at least three days prior to undertaking of the work.
- ▶ All complaints received by the applicant must be documented. Responses and or actions undertaken must also be noted. The noted information must be appropriately reported to City staff.
- ▶ Appropriate noise mitigation strategies must be proposed and approved. It is noted that the applicant has committed to use the smallest equipment capable of doing the work. Equipment engine noises (for example, compressors) will be shielded and eight (8) foot high plywood sheets with styrofoam facings will be erected where possible to shield noise. A noise monitoring program will be implemented during the work.
- ▶ Any changes in the work schedules must be reported to City staff as soon as possible. Re-notification of work changes to the residents may be required.

3.0 CONCLUSION

We have reviewed the application filed by B.A. Blacktop for work hour variation in connection with the proposed bridge parapets demolition work. In view of traffic and workers safety concerns, staff are in agreement with the proposed night time work and are working towards the issuance of a variance permit. Staff will monitor the situation during the specified period and liaise with the contractor to minimize impact to surrounding residents.

This is provided for Council's information.


DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

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