

CITY OF BURNABY

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
(TRAFFIC SAFETY DIVISION)

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

"JAYWALKING" PEDESTRIANS

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council approve the construction of a wrought iron fence along Nelson Avenue from Kingsway to Bennett Street, with funding obtained via Capital Contingency.

REPORT

The Traffic and Transportation Committee (Traffic Safety Division), at its meeting held on 1999 September 07, adopted the *attached* report recommending the installation of a central median fence along Nelson Avenue from Bennett Street to Kingsway.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. D. Berardine
Mr. K. Friederici
Mr. E. Fourchalk
Mr. P. Herring
Ms. L. Kapp
Mrs. D. Mumford
Mrs. R. Oostlander
Mr. J. Parminter
Mr. D. Richardson

Councillor J. Young
Chair

Councillor D. Evans
Member

Councillor N. Volkow
Member

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City of Burnaby

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

TO: TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE **DATE:** 1999 07 12
FROM: ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING,
TRAFFIC & ENGINEERING SYSTEMS **FILE:** 50-01-14
SUBJECT: "JAYWALKING" PEDESTRIANS
PURPOSE: To recommend installation of a central median fence along Nelson Avenue from Bennett Street to Kingsway

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** a wrought iron median fence be constructed along Nelson Avenue from Kingsway to Bennett Street, with funding obtained via Capital Contingency

REPORT

Resulting from the regular meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee meeting on 1999 May 04, staff were requested to investigate the need to construct a fence along the centre median of Nelson Avenue from Kingsway to Bennett Street in order to discourage jaywalking. This safety concern has been raised at the Committee previously.

Staff have monitored this section of Nelson Street at varying times of the day to determine the extent of the problem. On every occasion, pedestrians were observed crossing Nelson Street at a variety of locations notwithstanding nearby safer crossing locations at the Bennett Street and Kingsway signals. In most instances approaching vehicles appeared not to deter the foot traffic. The installation of a fence along the median is considered to be the most feasible way of dealing with this safety concern.

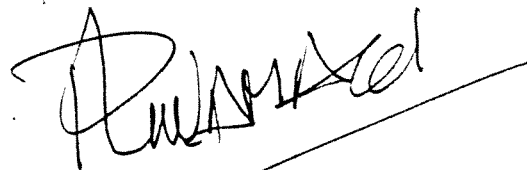
There is a general concern regarding the proliferation of median fencing and the consequent operating cost and aesthetic impact particularly in Town Centre areas. However, our impression is that this section of Metrotown is somewhat unique in terms of the amount of midblock crossing activity generated.

In recent years we have used three types of median barrier fences: 1. pipe rails (eg. Central Boulevard east of McKay), 2. chainlink (eg. Moscrop west of Willingdon) and 3. wrought iron (eg. Canada Way at the City Hall). Each type of fencing has its advantages and disadvantages. Each also generates an ongoing maintenance cost due to hit and run vehicle collisions. The pipe rail type of fence is simplest in appearance and most economic in terms of life cycle costs but is generally only

a symbolic barrier to younger people. In this case we believe it would be effective in deterring most jay walkers. It has less visual impact than chain-link but is still not a pretty sight. To further mitigate the visual impact we recommend installing a wrought iron fence, slightly lower and more ornate than the one installed recently on Canada Way. The designs under consideration would reflect an integrated Metrotown Urban Design signature.

A preliminary estimate of the cost of installation is \$21,000.00. No capital funds have been budgeted for this project. However, at present, sufficient funds exist in Capital Contingency to complete the works.

Despite the costs of initial construction and annual maintenance, past experience has proven median fencing to discourage errant pedestrian activity to be effective. To meet functional requirement while assuring an integrated Metrotown Urban design context, staff would recommend the construction of a wrought iron median fence along Nelson Avenue between Kingsway and Bennett Street with funding provided via Capital Contingency.



ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING,
TRAFFIC & ENG. SYSTEMS

AE:

cc: City Manager
Director Finance
Director Planning & Building

