

CITY OF BURNABY

COMMUNITY POLICING COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

RE: COMMUNITY POLICE STATION FOR SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council give staff authority to actively seek a location for a temporary Community Police Station in the Southeast District.

REPORT

The Community Policing Committee, at its meeting held on 1999 January 14 , received the attached report providing new information regarding the perspective of the Southeast District Community Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) on the choice of location for a community police station in that district.

The Committee requested that Council give staff authority to actively seek a location for a temporary Community Police Station in the Southeast District.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Evans
Chair

: COPY - CITY MANAGER
- DEP.MGR.-CORP. SERV.
- DIRECTOR FINANCE
- DIR. PLNG. & BLDG.
- OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, R.C.M.P.

Councillor J. Young
Vice Chair

TO: COMMUNITY POLICING COMMITTEE 1999 January 7
FROM: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING OUR FILE:17.317
SUBJECT: COMMUNITY POLICE STATION FOR SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

PURPOSE: To provide the Committee and Council with new information regarding the perspective of the Southeast District Community Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) on the choice of location for a community police station in that district.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the Committee forward this report to Council.

R E P O R T

1.0 INTRODUCTION

At its meeting of 1998 March 12, the Committee considered a staff report regarding the establishment of additional community police stations in Burnaby. The report outlined locational options, budget estimates and likely timelines for the development of permanent stations in the Hastings-Brentwood, Southeast and Southwest Community Policing Districts. The report was forwarded to and adopted by Council at its meeting of 1998 March 23.

Since adoption of the report, plans for the Southwest District station in Metrotown have moved ahead. The station is expected to begin operations in September 1999. As a result of changes to the proposal adopted for a permanent station in the Hastings-Brentwood District, City staff are seeking an interim site, pending future development opportunities for a permanent station. Negotiations are currently underway for leased premises on Hastings Street.

For the Southeast District, the report recommended the establishment of a community police station in the 3,500 square foot negotiated amenity space in the Middlegate Shopping Centre redevelopment. The report noted that the space would likely be ready for occupancy in autumn 2001. The recommendation was based on two factors:

- the Southeast District CPAC's identification of two locational preferences for a community police station, with their first priority being the intersection of Edmonds Street and Kingsway, and their second the Middlegate Shopping Centre;

- the lack of any current major redevelopment proposals for properties in the preferred area, with the exception of the Middlegate Shopping Centre.

Since 1998 March, staff have worked with the developer and the architect for the Middlegate redevelopment on the police station concept. To staff's knowledge, the development timeline is still on target.

This report provides the Committee with an update on the views of Southeast District CPAC members on a police station for their district.

2.0 SOUTHEAST DISTRICT CPAC'S VIEWS ON A COMMUNITY POLICE STATION

At recent meetings of the Community Policing Committee, the Chair of the Southeast District CPAC has reported that it is difficult to maintain momentum and volunteer and public enthusiasm without the focal point of a community police station in the area. In the opinion of CPAC members, autumn 2001 is too long to wait for a more visible presence for community policing in the area. CPAC members also believe that the proposed site for the station within the Middlegate Shopping Centre redevelopment is not ideal from a public access/visibility perspective. Consequently, they have indicated that they would prefer a more immediately-available alternative location for the station, either within the development or elsewhere. Failing that, they believe that the establishment of an interim station in leased premises in 1999 would at least address their concerns with the Middlegate timeline.

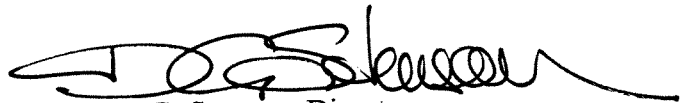
Over the past several months, possible alternative options for a community police station in the Southeast District have been suggested to staff by CPAC members. Some of the options have involved private sector rental premises which could serve as an interim station until autumn 2001. Other options have involved potential future developments in which a permanent community police station could possibly be located. The Southeast District CPAC members are pressing to have these options and any others which may be identified investigated and considered, to determine whether there is a viable means to have a community police station operating in the Southeast District in 1999 or early 2000.

Should the Community Policing Committee and Council wish, staff could investigate opportunities in the Southeast District for an interim community police station, or for an alternative permanent location to the currently-targeted site in the Middlegate Shopping Centre. Sufficient funds have not been allocated in the 1999 - 2003 Provisional Capital Program for the establishment of three community police stations in 1999. If an interim possibility for the Southeast District presented itself in 1999, and if plans for both the Southwest and Hastings-Brentwood stations are realized in 1999, as expected, additional funds would need to be included in the 1999 - 2003 Capital Program.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The current plan for the development of community police stations in Burnaby calls for the development of a Southeast District station in the Middlegate Shopping Centre redevelopment, with occupancy in 2001. Since that plan was approved, the Southeast District CPAC has raised concerns about both the timeline for the Middlegate-based station and about the specific site for the station within the development. They have requested that the City explore other alternatives for either an interim or a permanent station.

If directed by Committee and Council, staff will investigate and report back on alternatives to the Middlegate Shopping Centre option. Should an opportunity to establish an interim station in the Southeast District present itself in 1999, additional funds would need to be included in the 1999 - 2003 Capital Program.



D.G. Stenson, Director
Planning & Building

JS:sa

cc: City Manager
Deputy City Manager, Corporate Relations
Director Finance
OIC - RCMP