

**TO:** CITY MANAGER

1999 March 24

**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

OUR FILE: 17.466

**SUBJECT:** CLOSURE OF DOGWOOD LODGE AND NORMANNA REST HOME

**PURPOSE:** To respond to Council's request for information about the closure of Dogwood Lodge and Normanna Rest Home.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** this report be received for the information of City Council.

**REPORT**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

Council, during the New Business portion of the regular meeting of 1999 March 01, discussed the announcement regarding the closure of Dogwood Lodge and Normanna Rest Home. Arising from the discussion, Council requested staff to prepare a report providing the details of the closure. This report responds to the request.

**2.0 CLOSURE OF DOGWOOD LODGE AND NORMANNA REST HOME**

Planning staff discussed the issue of the closure of Normanna Rest Home and Dogwood Lodge (locations indicated on Map 1 and 2, **attached**) on 1999 March 04 with Keith Anderson, Vice President Continuing Care Services of the Simon Fraser Health Region. The following provides a summary of the events leading to the closure of these two facilities:

***Dogwood Lodge:***

In 1995, the Ministry of Health investigated the feasibility of upgrading the twenty-four year old Dogwood Lodge, located at 3755 Willingdon Avenue (Intermediate Care level) to the new Multi-level Care standards. The cost of renovation was estimated to be about \$5 million dollars, plus the allocation continuing operating dollars. This move was part of a larger overall strategy to phase out Intermediate Care Level II beds as a component of the Continuing Care program. At that time, a "freeze" was put on new capital expenditures and this project did not go ahead.

Subsequently, a decision was made to replace the one hundred and thirty-nine Intermediate Care beds at Dogwood with new Multi-level Care beds. A renovated Dogwood Lodge was one of the many candidate projects that was interested in providing the beds. Normanna Old People's Home Association, which operates the Normanna Rest Home, located at 7979 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue won the allocation to build a new one hundred bed multi-level care facility to replace the Dogwood Lodge at a cost of \$13 million. Ten months ago, Dogwood Lodge stopped accepting new residents in preparation for closing.

In essence, one hundred and thirty-nine less expensive Intermediate Level care beds are being replaced with one hundred more expensive, higher standard Multi-level Care beds. This will result in a loss (including the 22 Long Term Care beds at Normanna) of sixty-one beds in Burnaby. The new Multi-level care beds provide a combination of Intermediate Care and Extended Care resulting in a better continuum of care where people can stay as their care needs increase. As well, the new beds are seen as more desirable in that all rooms are private with ensuite bathrooms.

**Normanna Care Home:**

The Normanna Care Home project resulted in the demolition of the old Normanna Rest Home, which, as a phased out personal care facility, had been in the process of closing down for some time. The demolition of the old building was required to allow the construction of the new building. A Preliminary Plan Approval for the project was issued on April 30 1998. Construction is currently underway, and completion of Phase I is anticipated by early 2000.

**3.0 CONCLUSION**

The closure of Dogwood Lodge stems from a decision to replace, rather than upgrade, this Intermediate Care facility with a new facility (Normanna) that is built to Multi-level Care standards. This means that one hundred and thirty-nine Intermediate Care level beds are being replaced with one hundred higher standard Multi-level Care beds. The demolition of the former Normanna Rest Home was required to allow construction of the new Normanna Care Lodge.

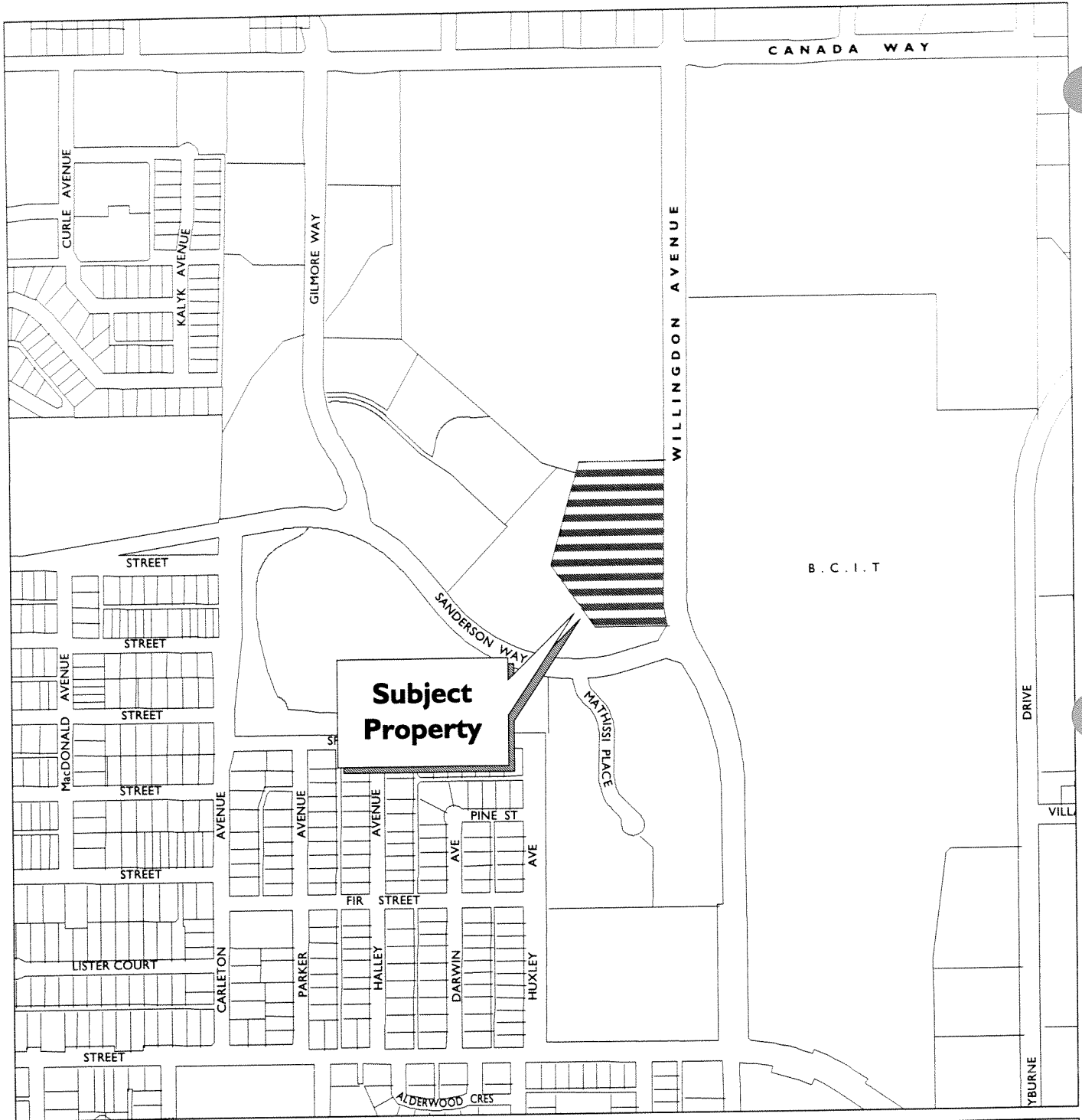
A report, entitled "The Road Ahead: A Directional Plan for Residential Care" submitted to the Regional Health Board in January of 1999 analysed existing care facilities in terms of future requirements for capital investment and improvements for long term viability. The study found that 56% of the facilities, representing 52% of the beds in Burnaby are in need of high investment to achieve the identified quality design criteria; especially to meet the multi-level care guidelines and Community Care licensing regulations. Therefore, in the

future, when the Health Region is evaluating options regarding capital planning for residential care, Burnaby could continue to lose some of the older stock to new replacement facilities in other areas of the Health Region that have been identified as being under served in terms of future population needs.

This is for the information of Council.

*B. Rukow*  
for D.G. Stenson, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

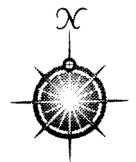
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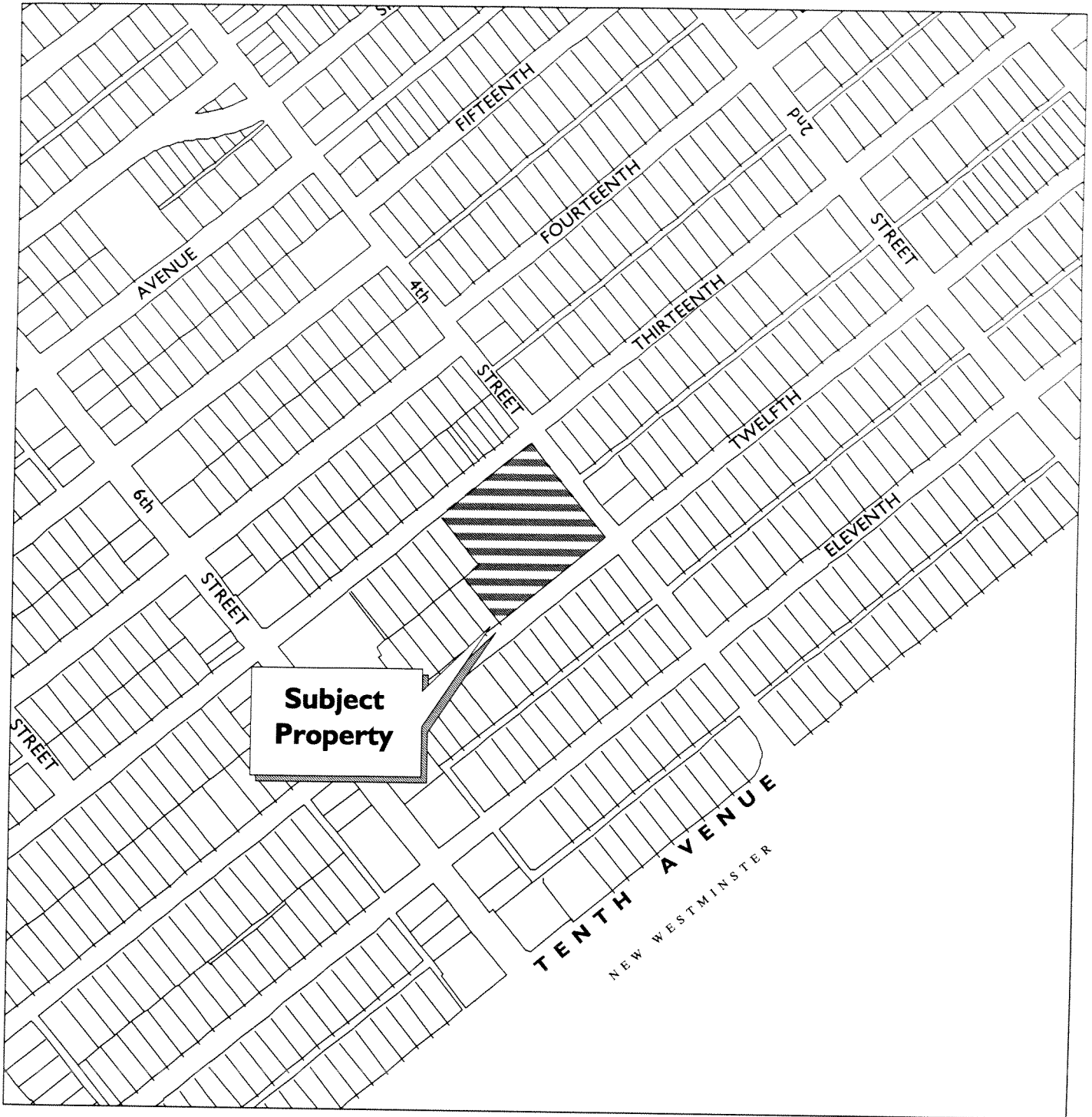


**Dogwood Lodge  
3755 Willingdon Avenue**



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**Normanna Rest Home  
7959 Twelfth Avenue**



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