

TO: CITY MANAGER 1999 FEBRUARY 02

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

SUBJECT: LIQUOR LICENCE APPLICATION #6/98
ENTERTAINMENT PROPOSED IN CLASS "B" RESTAURANT
TAISHO RESTAURANT
E15 - 4700 KINGSWAY, (see *attached* sketch)

PURPOSE: To seek Council approval for the subject liquor licence application

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council approve the request for an entertainment area in Taisho Restaurant, with the entertainment ceasing at 12:00 midnight seven days a week, subject to the karaoke box room regulations—as outlined in Section 2.4—first being met.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report and Council's resolution be forwarded to the Liquor Control and Licencing Branch, 101 - 9180 King George Highway, Surrey, B.C., V3V 5V9; and the applicant Shinichi Otanara, M3A - 601 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C., V5Z 4C2.

R E P O R T

1.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On 1990 April 30, Council received a report advising that, as part of a change in Liquor Control and Licencing Branch regulation, local government approval is a pre-condition for Branch consideration of entertainment in a licenced restaurant.

The report also stated, in consideration of the past practice of reporting on all requests for local government approval or comments on liquor licence applications, and the potential impact Class "B" licenced restaurants with significant entertainment features could have on adjacent neighbourhoods, this Department would, unless otherwise directed, report to Council on applications for entertainment in such restaurants.

2.0 GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- 2.1 The proposed entertainment use is located on the second storey of the new Metropolis development, a major three-storey commercial entertainment component of Eaton Centre. While the subject restaurant is surrounded on all sides by other commercial uses, Eaton Centre as a whole is surrounded by the Station Square commercial and mixed-use development to the west, the Metrotown Centre commercial development to the east, older two and three-storey apartments and a two-storey mini-storage building to the south across Central Boulevard and the Skytrain line, and older one and two-storey commercial buildings and an older three-storey mixed-use building to the north across Kingsway.
- 2.2 The applicant is proposing to have karaoke entertainment in the form of nine private karaoke box rooms. These rooms are located along the southeast side of the restaurant, off a corridor which would not receive regular restaurant traffic, and are not easily visible from the open restaurant area. The proposed hours of operation for the restaurant are Sunday to Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight and Friday and Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Though the proposed hours for the karaoke music are Sunday to Thursday 3:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. and Friday and Saturday 3:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., Liquor Control and Licencing policy is that karaoke entertainment must cease at 12:00 midnight. It is therefore recommended that Council approval of the entertainment be based on operating hours that reflect this policy. The subject restaurant's seating capacity is 240 seats.
- 2.3 The subject restaurant, located within a dense commercial development, is a completely internalized operation accessible only through the mall with a general Kingsway orientation. Therefore, the ambient noise of Kingsway, a very busy traffic corridor, and of other commercial activity should likely exceed any possible noise from the entertainment. In addition, the commercial activity adjacent to the restaurant should help buffer any such noise.
- 2.4 As noted in the report Council received earlier on this agenda regarding karaoke box rooms, concerns have been raised by the R.C.M.P., Burnaby Detachment and the City Task Force on the Sexual Exploitation and Prostitution of Children and Youth related to karaoke box rooms and their potential to foster illegal activity. It was also noted that the Liquor Control and Licencing Branch policy and regulations regarding karaoke box rooms are insufficient and measures to improve the policy were recommended. Though the karaoke box rooms for the subject establishment have already been constructed as per Liquor Control and Licencing Branch guidelines, it is recommended that the subject restaurant meet the following requirements before receiving the endorsement of the City:

- at least one-third of the karaoke box room wall on which the door is located, including the door area, is outfitted with clear, non-glare, non-reflective, non-tinted glass and windows are unobstructed at all times (existing Liquor Control and Licencing Branch policy regarding window height and the absence of blinds or curtains would still be necessary).
- when rooms are occupied, there is a level of illumination that is consistent with that which is expected for restaurants—establishments in which the primary purpose is eating—and that devices such as black lights and disco balls are not used without a minimum level of additional lighting

2.5 The Planning and Building Department has solicited comments on this application from relevant City Departments, including the R.C.M.P., Burnaby Detachment. As noted in the report Council received earlier on this agenda, the R.C.M.P. Burnaby Detachment, has some concerns about karaoke box rooms in licenced restaurants and would like the karaoke box rooms to be subject to regulations that allow for greater visibility. It is hoped that the recommendations outlined above will allay these concerns.

3.0 CONCLUSION:

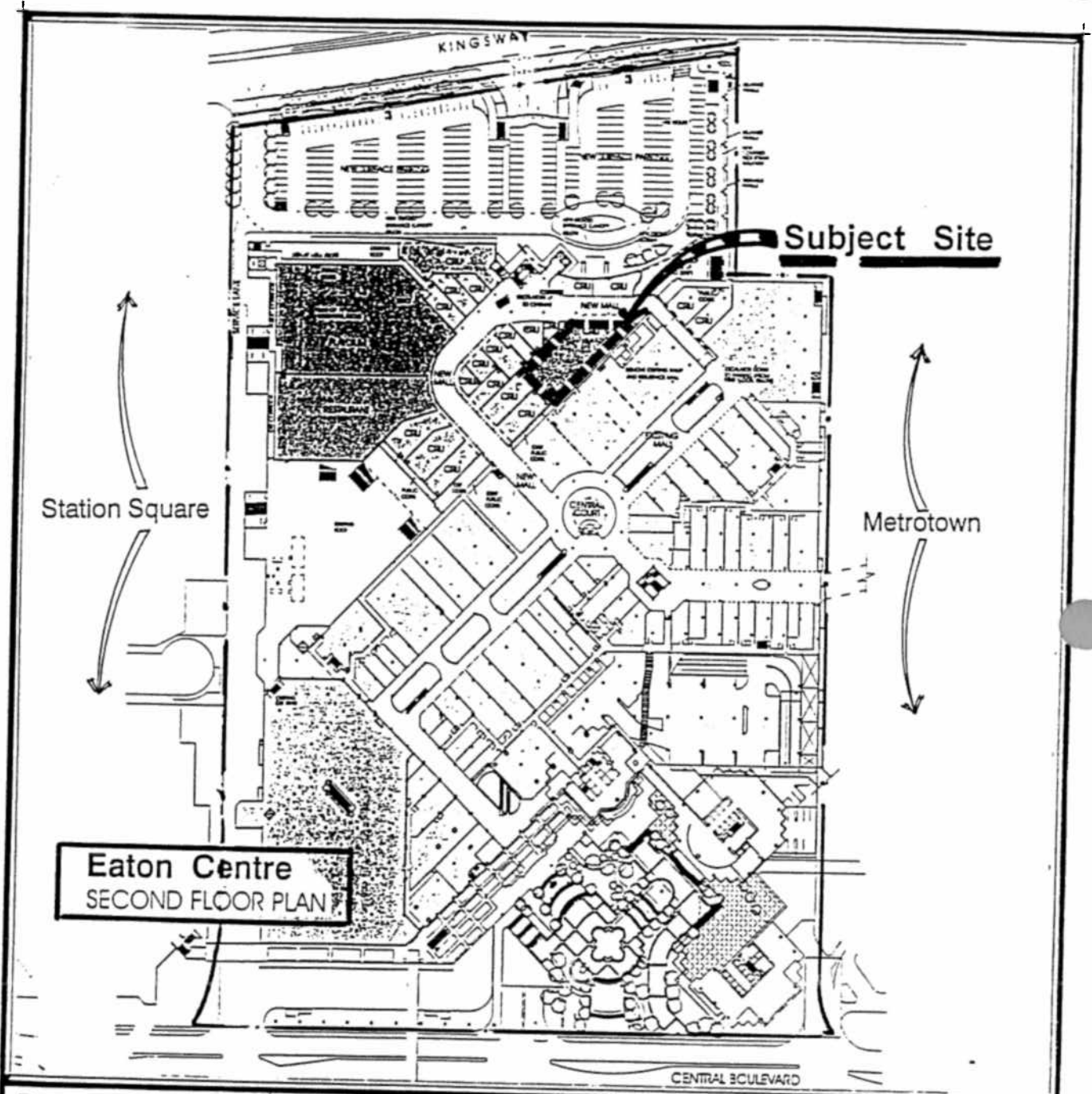
Given the location of the proposed entertainment area within Eaton Centre and in relation to other land uses and activity, the Planning and Building Department supports the subject application for entertainment in the Class "B" licenced restaurant subject to the karaoke entertainment ceasing at 12:00 midnight and the recommendations outlined in Section 2.4 first being met.



D. G. Stenson
Director Planning and Building

LS/ds
Attach.

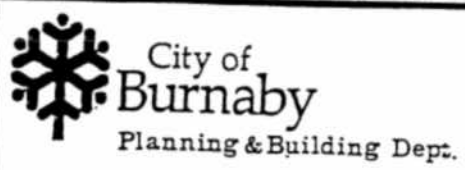
cc: Director Engineering, Environmental Services Division
Officer-in-Charge, R.C.M.P., Burnaby Detachment



Date:
November 1998

Scale:
NTS

Drawn By:
J.P.C.



Liquor Licence Application # 6/98



Sketch #