CITY OF BURNABY

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (TRAFFIC SAFETY DIVISION)

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

RE: MEDIAN CONSTRUCTION ON KINGSWAY AT THE OLD ORCHARD SHOPPING CENTRE

RECOMMENDATION:

1. *THAT* Council forward a copy of the <u>attached</u> report to Honourable Joan Sawicki, MLA Burnaby-Willingdon, Minister of Environment, at 4732 Imperial Street, Burnaby, B.C.

REPORT

The Traffic and Transportation Committee (Traffic Safety Division), at its meeting held on 2000 February 01, received and adopted the <u>attached</u> report responding to concerns regarding the constraint on traffic access to the Old Orchard Shopping Centre resulting from the extension of a central median westward from the Kingsway/Willingdon intersection.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Evans Chair

Councillor B. Der Vice Chair

Councillor G. Begin Member

:COPY - CITY MANAGER

- DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

City of Burnaby

INTER-OFICE COMMUNICATION

TO:

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: 2000 01 21

FROM:

ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING,

FILE: 50-01-14

TRAFFIC & ENGINEERING SYSTEMS

SUBJECT:

MEDIAN CONSTRUCTION ON KINGSWAY

AT THE OLD ORCHARD SHOPPING CENTRE

PURPOSE:

To respond to concerns regarding the constraint on traffic access to the Old Orchard Shopping

Centre resulting from the extension of a central median westward from the

Kingsway/Willingdon intersection.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to Honourable Joan Sawicki, MLA Burnaby-Willingdon, Minister of Environment, at 4732 Imperial Street, Burnaby.

REPORT

At its 1999 December 13 regular meeting Council received correspondence from Honourable Joan Sawicki, the MLA for Burnaby, Willingdon. The Minister wrote on behalf of business proprietors and patrons of the Old Orchard Shopping Centre whose movements are now more restricted by the recent installation of a centre median on Kingsway from Willingdon Avenue to a point west of the Kathleen Avenue intersection (Old Orchard driveway access). This work was carried out as part of the Kingsway Willingdon intersection improvements and resulted the loss of direct left turn access to the shopping centre for vehicles travelling eastbound on Kingsway and precluded left turns out of the shopping centre - a less consequential concern.

The installation of centre medians along high volume roadways serves to provide a physical separation between opposing directions of travel, while at the same time prohibiting left turns at un-signalized intersections and mid-block site access locations. The total effect of this is a reduced potential for vehicle/vehicle conflict and an overall improvement in safety along well travelled routes.

The long range plan for the Kingsway corridor through Metrotown indicates the completion of a centre median along its entire length, with left turn movements consolidated at signalized intersections. With the recent redevelopment of a number of private parcels fronting Kingsway between Kathleen Avenue and McKay Avenue, additional road right-of-way was dedicated on the south side. The increased cross-sectional width of Kingsway in this area provided an opportunity to incorporate centre median/left turn bay construction into the civil works associated with intersection improvement and adjacent development.

Traffic Safety Committee	
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Ms. Sawicki notes the improvement to safety that this type of improvement brings and this is the primary driver for left turn consolidation/median treatment. For example, our crash data includes a total 93 incidents reported to the RCMP over a 6 year period at the Kathleen Avenue / Kingsway intersection. The majority of these were right angle collisions, which are considered to be correctable with the implementation of left turn prohibitions. The remaining, other, types of collisions, such as "rear enders", may well have been the result of a third party turning left.

We also appreciate the difficulty for people travelling eastbound along Kingsway intending to access the Old Orchard shopping centre. Therefore, as suggested by Ms. Sawicki, we propose using directional signs to inform eastbound motorists of the access route to the Old Orchard Shopping Centre via Wilson and Grange Street as shown on the attached diagram. In the future we will endeavour to anticipate this type of concern by installing the directional signing concurrently with the median installation.

P. Liivamagi, P. Eng.

ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING,

TRAFFIC & ENG. SYSTEMS

AE: Attach.

cc: City Manager

