

TO: CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2001 05 07
FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING **FILE:** 65-01-04
55-01-03
SUBJECT: Correspondence from Ms. Ebba Fenkarek of 7826 Graham Avenue
PURPOSE: To respond to various concerns including parks' maintenance, litter control and illegal parking in the Canada Way/Edmond/6th Street area.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to Ms. Ebba Fenkarek of 7826 Graham Avenue, Burnaby, B.C., V3N 1V7

R E P O R T

At its regular meeting of 2001 May 07 Council received correspondence from Ms. Ebba Fenkarek of 7826 Graham Avenue. She has various concerns with respect to parks maintenance, litter control and illegal parking in the general Canada Way/Edmond/6th Street area. This report responds specifically to those concerns.

1. *The Park at 7th Street and Graham Avenue not properly maintained and that most of the equipment had been removed.*

An old small wooden tower structure for tot play was removed from Seventh and Graham Tot Lot Park in 1999. Two "spring toys" and a swing set remained in the park. The tower was removed because it had rotted to the point of being unsafe and unmanageable for repair.

Playgrounds with structures removed or with significant upgrades required, are placed on a list for playground improvements and are prioritized within funding limits approved by the Parks Recreation and Culture Commission. It is anticipated that the Seventh and Graham Tot Lot Park playground will receive funding within the current five-year Capital Program. It should be noted that the playground improvement process involves meeting the current Canadian Standards Association guidelines. This entails a complete assessment and overhaul of not only the structure, but often the safety base and perhaps the surrounding site as well, which may add significantly to the costs. As such, playgrounds selected for upgrading receive a thorough assessment, including input from community representatives, before improvements are completed through the normal tendering process.

2. ***Flower beds at Graham Avenue Park not properly maintained and as a result has become an eyesore and is totally embarrassing.***

The nature gardens were coordinated by Greenlinks to add some wildlife habitat in the urban setting during a past Environment Week project. Native plants to attract and act as a refuge for wildlife were used, and as a native refuge, it was not intended to receive regular maintenance other than occasional removal of noxious weed growth getting out of hand.

3. ***The Wedgewood Street right-of-way just off Canada Way overgrown with blackberry bushes, weeds and garbage needs a cleanup. There is also a stand of cedar trees that are in deplorable condition.***

In a report from the Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services to Council at its regular meeting of 2001 May 07, the City arborist confirmed that the cedar hedgerow is in good condition and not requiring the removal of any significant stems at this time. There will be an annual assessment of the cedars and any required work will be undertaken.

Staff met with Ms. Fenkarek to review her concerns regarding the condition of the Wedgewood Street right-of-way. A complete cleanup, including removal of illegally dumped garbage was carried out. Ms. Fenkarek was satisfied with the response.

4. ***Litter on 6th Street between Edmonds and 10th Avenue.***

The City has a network of litter receptacles in the above area. The receptacles are emptied by the City litter control crews on a scheduled basis. As part of the overall litter control program, the City also provides a street sweeping and litter pick-up service on area streets when needed to keep the community clean. Area business owners are aware of the City's program and have conducted their own site cleanup periodically

5. ***Illegal/dangerous parking on 6th Street, between Graham and 15th Avenue.***

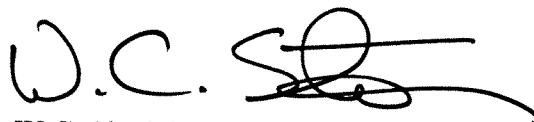
Throughout the past few weeks Bylaw Enforcement Officers have patrolled this area on a regular basis between 6:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. There have been no violations at this location. The RCMP have been notified of Ms. Fenkarek's concerns in the event the parking problem occurs outside of regular staff hours.

6. ***Edmond/Kingsway-Middlegate area has become a slum-zone and a haven for drug operations.***

This area is the commercial core of the Edmonds Town Centre. The delay in redevelopment of the Middlegate Mall site due to the developer's financial difficulties has been a

disappointment in this regard, but redevelopment will no doubt proceed in the next few years, helping to revitalize this area. Currently, the activities of the Edmonds Town Centre Business Community Association in the area are contributing significantly to its commercial revitalization. In addition, the establishment of the Southeast Community police Office at 7009 Kingsway last September is helping to address other problems in the area mentioned by the writer.

Staff have been in touch with Ms. Fenkarek and have discussed the contents of this report with her.



W.C. Sinclair, P. Eng.
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

AAS:

cc: Director Planning & Building
Director Parks, Recreation & Culture

