

CITY OF BURNABY
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

A

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: PEDESTRIAN SAFETY CONCERNS AT
16TH AVENUE AND 1ST STREET**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council forward a copy of the report to Mrs. Elwood of 8134 14th Avenue, Burnaby, BC, V3N 2B8.
2. **THAT** Council forward a copy of this report to the Second Street Community School's Parent Advisory Council for information purposes.

REPORT

The Traffic Safety Committee, at its meeting held on 2004 May 04, received and adopted the attached report responding to Mrs. Elizabeth Elwood's concerns expressed in correspondence to Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Evans
Chair

Councillor N. Volkow
Vice Chair

Councillor L. Rankin
Member

COPY: CITY MANAGER
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

TO: TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE **DATE:** 2004 04 26

FROM: ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING,
TRAFFIC & ENGINEERING SYSTEMS **FILE:** 38000-03

**SUBJECT: PEDESTRIAN SAFETY CONCERNS AT
16TH AVENUE AND 1ST STREET**

PURPOSE: To respond to Mrs. Elizabeth Elwood's concerns expressed in correspondence to Council.

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R E P O R T

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Council, at its meeting of 2004 March 01 received correspondence from Mrs. Elizabeth Elwood regarding pedestrian safety concerns at the intersection of 16th Ave and 1st St. The correspondence was forwarded to the Traffic Safety Committee for review.

2.0 BACKGROUND

This intersection is currently controlled by a pedestrian signal on 16th Ave, a major collector with stop sign control on 1st St, an unclassified residential street. In 2002, no post barricades were added to the corners on 16th Ave to protect the crosswalks. The "narrowing" of 16th Ave addresses speeding on 16th Ave and provides an enhanced pedestrian refuge. There are good sight lines in all directions and a school safety patrol works the west crosswalk before and after school hours.

3.0 REVIEW

Staff attended the intersection a number of times at various times of the day including peak hours when school children were going to and from school. No vehicle/vehicle or vehicle/pedestrian conflicts were observed during these visits.

The signage and signal timings were checked and found to meet or exceed guidelines.

There have been six recorded collisions in this intersection since 1999, three in 1999, one in 2001 and two in 2002 one of which involved a pedestrian. There have been no collisions recorded since then.

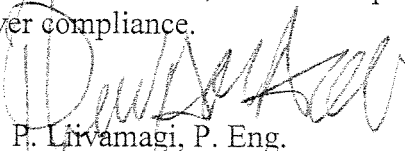
4.0 DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION

Pedestrian controlled signals with stop signs at the minor street are the highest level of control for crosswalks and provide the best available pedestrian crossing safety. However, like all signal controlled intersections, they tend to draw increased traffic volumes as drivers use them to provide easy access from a minor to a major street.

The correspondent suggests the introduction of an adult crossing guard at this location. The Adult Crossing Program which is managed by the Burnaby School Board and funded by the City has limited resources. Changes to the program would require reviewing all existing crosswalks with guards and potentially moving an existing guard from another school to this one. Our observations indicate that well trained student patrols are as effective as adult guards at many locations.

In the past the City has modified this intersection using various methods to improve pedestrian safety but, driver disregard for control devices is difficult to correct through "engineering" means. We will, however, install twin parallel crosswalk lines on the side street to reinforce the stop bar pavement markings. Poor driver behaviour is best addressed through enforcement but is difficult when the problem is relatively infrequent, and police resources limited.

In short, the best methods to keep pedestrians safe is education and awareness of dangerous areas and constant vigilance while in a crosswalk, as even the presence of a signalized crosswalk does not guarantee driver compliance.

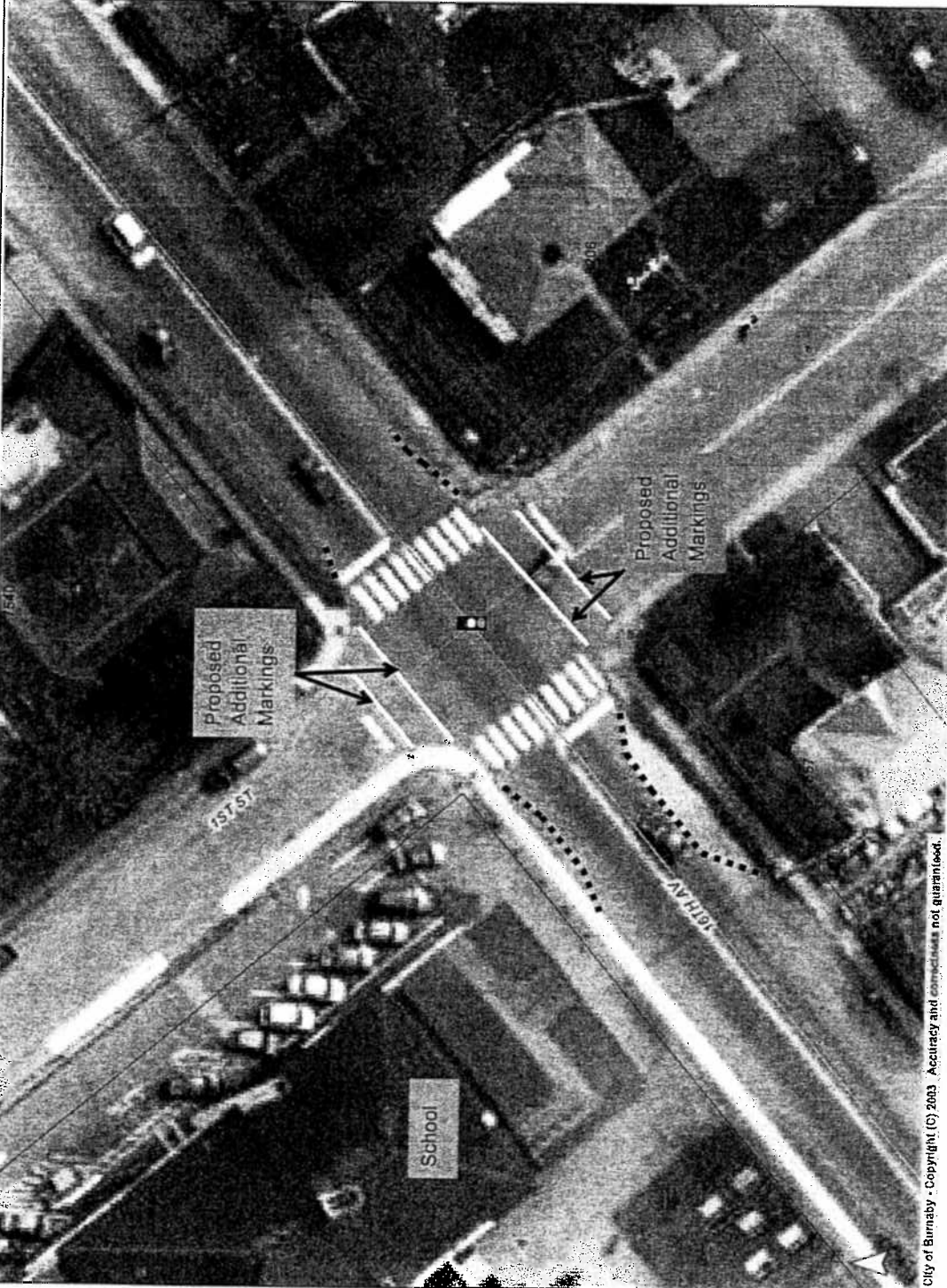


P. Lirvamagi, P. Eng.
ASST. DIRECTOR ENGINEERING,
TRAFFIC & ENG. SYSTEMS

BL:
cc: City Manager

16th Ave. and 1st St. Intersection

April 26, 2004



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- Selected Features
- Lot
- Street Intersections
- Places
- Sirata Units
- Traffic Signal
- Speed Humps
- Speed Humps
- Roads
- Local
- Collector
- Arterial
- Freeway
- Hydrology
- Colour 2002
- Parks
- PARKLAND TO BE ACQUIRED
- Other
- Barricade
- Golf
- Police
- Fire
- Utility
- Cemetary
- School
- Civic
- Library
- Hospital
- Mail
- Parks and Rec
- Skytrain Stations
- Skytrain Lines
- Addresses

Map Scale
1 : 500