



Seymour Valley Community Association Newsletter

<http://www.seymourvalley.ca>

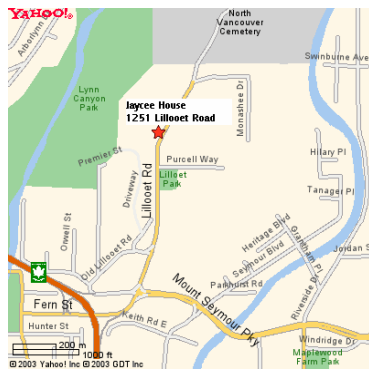
Issue 10

January 2004

The SVCA represents your neighbourhood to local District government. Like other North Vancouver community associations, our goal is to ensure District staff and Council acts to improve the quality of life in our neighbourhood.

Annual Meeting

Tuesday, February 24, 2004
Jaycee House, 1251 Lillooet Road



Agenda

7:00 pm—7:15 pm

- Registration & Social

7:15 pm to 9:00 pm

- Introduction
- 2004 Nominations & Election
- Issues/Projects Discussion

Active 2003 SVCA Members

Volunteers with great appreciation for their neighbourhood power the SVCA. If you enjoy your neighbourhood, consider a tour of duty. Contact either of the co-chairs for more information.

Co-Chairs

- Bob Charlton (604-929-6228)
- Bill Maurer (604-929-9442)

Secretary/Treasurer

- Michele Payne (604-929-4444)

Members

- Ken Reid (604-929-3254)
- Phil Holland (604-924-1087)
- William Schuurman (604-924-3704)

You can reach all active members by sending a single e-mail message to directors@seymourvalley.ca.

2003 Activities

Members have been lobbying the District for local improvements including:

- A new community entrance sign
- Reduction of noise spilling out of the North Vancouver Cemetery
- Improvements to the Blueridge/Seymour Valley Connector Trail
- Sidewalk improvements along Riverside Drive.
- Elimination of Jordan Ave and repatriation of Hogan's Pool
- Advanced warning signal light for westbound traffic on Mt Seymour Pky @ Riverside
- Beautification of former Mountain Biker Parking area at the Dentists office

For more detail on these activities, read the following pages.

Community Sign

The Seymour Valley Community Association would like to place a community sign and notice board at the corner of Riverside Drive and Grantham Way. A design was developed in late 2002.



This continues to be a high priority item for the community association but awaits District funding.

Cemetery Noise Reduction

The City of North Vancouver has been operating a clean fill landfill in the Cemetery site across the river and up the hill from Swinburne Ave for many years.

In recent years the city has been hosting a commercial rock crushing operation on site. Rock crushing generates an excessive amount of noise that echoes through the valley making it difficult for residents to enjoy their home and garden during weekdays when the landfill operates.

Seymour Valley residents have made several attempts to get the City to move rock crushing activities to an appropriately zoned industrial area.

After two years of effort, the City has agreed to cease crushing activities on site.

Riverside/Blueridge Pathway Safety Issues

The footpath from Rivergrove Place up to Berkley Avenue has provided the shortest route for Riverside north area residents to catch the nearest BC Transit bus stop and to walk to schools and playgrounds.

This is one of the few pathways between residential areas in Seymour which does not have overhead lighting. It is the longest unlighted connecting pathway in Seymour.

For the safety of users and residents, adequate lighting needs to be installed. Residents who continue to use the trail in darkness are at great risk of tripping. Also those that do not use the trail are also at risk as some trail users build torches out of newspaper and newsletters that are left on buses. Fire risk is greatly increased due to lack of lighting.



Stairs landing with burnt rails – after hours youth hangout?

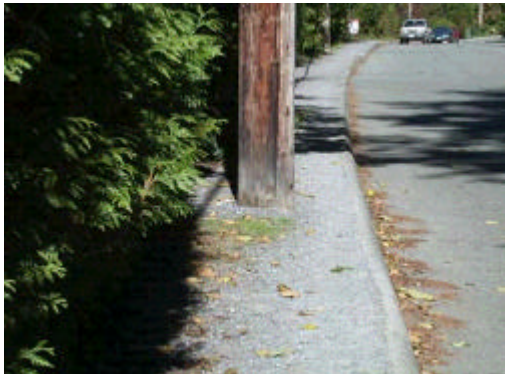
Also in 2003: a request to install an Abbey Road like crosswalk at Sechelt Dr. and Berkley Ave was turned down by District staff.

Sidewalk Update

Sidewalk improvements continue to be a huge safety issue for the community. The following requests have been made to the District regarding the limestone sidewalk.

Shrubbery Maintenance: We have asked that the District perform regular shrubbery clipping on District property adjacent to sidewalks. We ask local residents do the same.

Power Poles: There are a number of power poles encroaching the west sidewalk on upper Riverside Drive. We would like these power poles moved so that the sidewalk can be used without stepping out onto the roadway.



Resurface/Upgrade/Widen: The west side sidewalk is too narrow in many places forcing pedestrians onto the road. We would like the walkway to be at least 4 feet so that it is usable by pedestrians, strollers, wheelchairs. There are places where there are interruptions in the sidewalk which cannot be easily negotiated by wheeled devices.

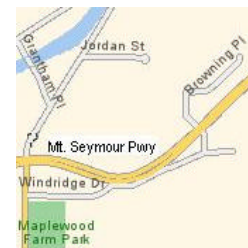
Eastside Sidewalk: When Riverside Drive was paved in 1976 property owners were assessed an improvement fee and sidewalks were installed on both the east and west side of the road. We would like the east sidewalk restored and the right of way respected where no sidewalk exists.

No Parking Signs: Parking should be restricted to one side only on curved areas of the road. We would like a few no parking signs installed on these sections. It is a safety hazard when cars park on both sides of the road in these areas and are frequent causes of accidents.

So far the District is reluctant to make significant improvements to the Riverside Drive sidewalk.

Hogans Pool and Jordon Street

The Hogans Pools Conservation Reserve is split into two sections by the Jordan St right of way. This is a historical right of way which was used to access the old gravel pit located on the property behind the pools. We would like this access road eliminated and the land made part of Hogans Pools so that it is one park.



The property behind this area can be accessed more directly from Berkley Road and/or Browning Place.

Former Bike Parking Area Improvements

As the result of a complaint by a single resident regarding mountain biker parking, the traffic department took it upon itself to completely eliminate parking from lower Riverside Drive next to the Parkway.

Prior to outlawing parking, the District first tried to control it. Staff went out to the maintenance yard, picked up some highway dividers and plunked them down next to the road. The intent of this was to stop parking on a strip of gravel next to Riverside.



The community association has requested that the highway dividers be replaced with curbs or landscaping ties and to landscape the area with grass or shrubbery.

Also residents have historically used the area for park and ride carpool purposes. We have requested that the District allow local residents to park in that area.

Advanced Warning Light

One project of the SVCA Traffic Committee has been to lobby the District to install an amber flashing red-light warning signal on the descending hill of the Parkway on the westbound approach to the Riverside Drive intersection.

Most residents of our community have probably experienced at least once the difficulty of turning left up Riverside Drive from the Parkway because of vehicles running the red light down the hill.

In the year 2002, 102 crashes occurred on the section of Mount Seymour Parkway between Riverside Drive and Mount Seymour Road. 43 of those crashes resulted in personal injury.

The percentage breakdown of crashes and location shows that Riverside Drive is the most dangerous intersection with nearly half (44%) of the 102 crashes occurring here.

The District has so far indicated that they do not feel it is necessary or that the site fits the criteria to require installation. However, we will continue to press for this improvement.

Visit our website to learn more and to lend your support.



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