

District of North Vancouver

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British Columbia
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Richard Zerr, Director
Planning, Engineering, Parks and Regulatory Services Division

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November 17, 2003
File: 5460-01/18

Mr. Bob Charlton
Co - Chair SVCA
1857 Riverside Drive
North Vancouver, BC V7H 1V8

Dear Mr. Charlton:

Re: RIVERSIDE DRIVE - PEDESTRIAN CONCERNS

In reference to your letter, addressed to Mayor Don Bell, regarding the condition of the existing pedestrian walkways and a request for a full sidewalk along Riverside Drive, your letter has been forwarded to the Engineering Department for review and response. We have now been able to review the background information and have conducted a site visit to ascertain the current conditions.

Request for a concrete sidewalk:

Riverside Drive from Grantham Place north to the end is classified as a local road, and has been constructed to a width of 8m, with a limestone walkway along the west side from Grantham Place to the end. When we review proposed sidewalk locations we rank them in an order based on number of pedestrians and vehicles using road in the peak hour, if it provides continuity to other existing sidewalks, if there is a large pedestrian generator (i.e. School) near by, and cost. We then review our ranking list with senior management each year before Capital Budget submissions and then submit a request list to District Council for review and approval. Riverside Drive was not included for 2004 Capital Budget consideration this year, but will again be included in our review for 2005.

Maintenance of Limestone Walkway:

The limestone walkway on the east side of Riverside Drive is no longer a viable pedestrian corridor. The cost to return this boulevard to the installed condition of 1976 would exceed our manpower and funding allocations. However, the existing limestone sidewalk on the west side of Riverside Drive will be maintained and improved as our schedules and budget permit.



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Trimming of Vegetation:

Maintenance of boulevards adjacent to private property is restricted by corporate policy. The policy states: The District does not accept responsibility for the landscaping and maintenance of boulevards. However the District will encourage and co-operate with any owners wishing to improve the boulevards abutting their properties subject to the necessary permission being obtained from the Director of Parks and Engineering Services in compliance with the appropriate District bylaws. The areas you identified are not within the municipal brushing inventory and are adjacent to private property, as such have not been maintained on a regular basis.

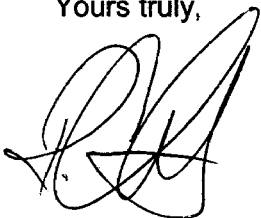
The Streets and Transportation Departments will be in contact with the homeowners at these locations and will work towards improving pedestrian access.

Relocation of Hydro Poles:

The relocation of hydro poles is fairly expensive, and typically included with the construction of a concrete sidewalk. Also, it is not always possible to relocate poles, and this is first reviewed with a BC Hydro Technician. Unfortunately there are no funds available for pole relocation at this time, however it is included as part of our concrete sidewalk construction estimate, and would be done in conjunction with sidewalk construction, if approved.

Thank you for taking time to write with your concerns. Should you have any further questions in regards to this matter please contact either of the undersigned at 604-990-2450.

Yours truly,



Rory Chilton,
Streets Department



Mike Frisk,
Transportation Section

cc: Mayor Don Bell
Richard Zerr, Director of Planning, Engineering, Parks & Regulatory Services