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Corporate Report

NO: R049

COUNCIL DATE: March 24, 2003

REGULAR COUNCIL

Mayor &

Council

DATE: March 17,

2003

FROM: General Manager,

Engineering

FILE: XC: 5400-08 5400-

80(18000)

5400-80(07200)

SUBJECT: Stop Up and Close By-law for 180th Street,

North of Fraser Highway

RECOMMENDATION

That Council direct the City Clerk to prepare a Stop Up and Close By-law for 180 Street, north of Fraser Highway.

INTENT

To convey to Council the Engineering Department's support for the closure of 180 Street north of Fraser Highway.

BACKGROUND

In July 2001, the Engineering Department received a request from a local resident for the closure of 180 Street immediately north of Fraser Highway (see attached plan) citing concerns for the amount and speed of shortcutting traffic through the neighbourhood.

DISCUSSION

The results of a mail-out survey (of affected residents) in February 2002 indicated that 68% of the respondents supported the closure. Emergency services agencies (RCMP, B.C. Ambulance Service and Fire Service) also indicated their support for the closure, provided that emergency vehicle access is retained (gated closure). The Planning & Development Department indicated their support for the closure as well, provided that emergency vehicle access is retained.

The Engineering Department reviewed the intersection of Fraser Highway at 180 Street, noting that sight lines are somewhat restricted between southbound vehicles stopped at the stop sign and westbound vehicles travelling on Fraser Highway. This is a safety concern and leads to our support for the closure. ICBC staff have verbally indicated their support for the proposed closure.

The road pattern in the area is such that 72 Avenue, between 180 Street and 184 Street (local road), is an attractive shortcut route for vehicles travelling west on 72 Avenue, from east of 184 Street (arterial road) destined to Fraser Highway. From a transportation perspective, westbound vehicles on 72 Avenue should be utilizing 184 Street or

182 Street to access Fraser Highway. The potential closure of 180 Street, north of Fraser Highway, will serve to minimize non-local traffic intrusion into the neighbourhood.

CONCLUSION

Affected residents, emergency service agencies, and the Planning & Development Department support the closure of 180 Street north of Fraser Highway. The Engineering Department is also in favour of the closure given the existence of restricted sight lines at the Fraser Highway / 180 Street intersection and the related safety concerns evident. The Engineering Department recommends that Council direct the City Clerk to prepare a Stop Up and Close By-law for Council's consideration.

Paul Ham, P.Eng. General Manager, Engineering

LD/brb Attachment

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