

Subject: [Fwd: Speed Hump Update]

Date: Mon, 19 Nov 2001 15:01:12 -0800

From: Brian Platts <brian_platts@telus.net>

To: Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

Subject: RE: Speed Hump Update

Date: Mon, 19 Nov 2001 13:40:44 -0800

From: "Phil Holland" <Phil.Holland@ATTGlobal.net>

To: "Ernie Crist" <CristE@district.north-van.bc.ca>

CC: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@district.north-van.bc.ca>, "FONVCA \((E-mail)\)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, "Speed Humps" <SpeedHumps@SeymourValley.ca>

Councillor Christ:

Your cooperation in this matter is a good indication of your support for our neighbourhood. It is appreciated!

Your statement that our active involvement will go beyond the speed hump issue is also correct. In fact, the issue of the speed humps is only a part of a bigger problem. That bigger problem is the issue of fixing and maintaining the decision process used to make drastic changes in our neighbourhood. To begin with, there are three parts to this:

1. Council, in an attempt to enable neighbourhood participation has turned to accredited community associations for input. This delegation of responsibility should and can be a very good thing as long as the controls are in place to ensure that the group that is claiming to recognise the community as a whole does so. In the case of the Seymour Valley Community Association, it is absolutely clear that the community was hardly aware of their existence. **Council (through staff) need to ensure that community associations are holding well publicized elections and meetings and that the support of issues before council is on a democratic basis.**
2. **Our Community Association must communicate with all of the community.** To date, the Seymour Valley Community Association has not done this. As such they don't represent the community. To change this, we have taken actions such as the establishment of a mailing list and website to keep people informed. You can see this by visiting www.SeymourValley.ca and by reading the letter that was recently sent to you and all the members (not just those who oppose the speed humps) of our community.
3. District Staff need to avoid actions that bias public input and council's decisions. To make statements like "we only have a budget for speed humps", at the first meeting is highly prejudicial. Staff then ignored the safety improvements supported by "**all the participants**" (see page 5 of the Context Research study) in favour of a recommendation to install speed humps which were only supported by a "**slight**" majority of a small number of respondents.

Ensuring that there is a good interaction between the residents, a community association and Council will take an ongoing effort and require a higher level of due diligence when it comes to recognizing community associations. We have started this process by identifying that the vast majority of the community was not in favour of speed humps. To correct this Council has been asked to remove them. Please get rid of the speed humps so we can get on with a more constructive relationship.

Sincerely,

Phil Holland

-----Original Message-----

From: Ernie Crist [mailto:CristE@district.north-van.bc.ca]
Sent: November 17, 2001 12:33 PM
To: 'Phil.Holland@ATTGlobal.net'
Cc: Mayor and Council - DNV; FONVCA (E-mail)
Subject: RE: Speed Hump Update

Dear Mr. Holland:

I received your material and was impressed by the extent and quality of your work. Regardless of the present controversy surrounding this one issue I wish to express my appreciation for your efforts in doing in what you as a resident believe is right. In the long run, active participation and involvement by residents in the affairs of their own neighborhood will produce benefits that will go far beyond the present speed hump issue.

You may be aware that I have long been a strong advocate of such participation as I believe that neighborhoods themselves are the best judges as to how their respective livability and subsequently that of the community as a whole may be improved. Such neighborhood involvement across the whole spectrum of burning civic issues is by no means an abdication of our responsibility as elected officials. On the contrary, it puts the process of leadership onto a higher level. Also, I firmly believe that, in the long run, the interests people in a particular neighborhood have in common are greater than those that divide them.

If you have not done so already, I strongly urge you to get in touch with FONVCA.

Thank you,

Ernie Crist.

-----Original Message-----

From: Phil Holland [mailto:Phil.Holland@Home.com]
Sent: Saturday, November 17, 2001 12:33 AM
To: Ernie Crist
Cc: Speed Humps
Subject: Speed Hump Update

Councillor Crist:

This is a copy of the update sent out to all Riverside Area residents. Your copy also includes the distribution list that the update was sent to. This has not been provided to the residents.

Sincerely,

Phil Holland