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9 June 2009-06-10

Mayor Pamela Goldsmith-Jones and  
Councillors Michael Evison, Michael Lewis,  
Trish Panz, Michael Smith, Bill Soprovich  
and Shannon Walker.

750 17<sup>th</sup>. St.

West Vancouver, B.C.

V7V 3T3

Dear Mayor and Councillors

Re: Power lines constructed along Argyle

The District has in hand the re-vitalization of Ambleside and the beautification of the waterfront which is a very much wanted and appropriate proposal. Much time and effort has so far been expended and without doubt, more effort will be put forward. The report respecting the revitalization of Ambleside which was recently adopted by Council is a remarkable foresighted document and one that must be followed for the betterment of West Vancouver.

One matter which in my view is essential to the beautification of the Ambleside waterfront park and beach area which has so far been overlooked is to have the overhead power lines which run along Argyle and the railway tracks buried and so remove a most unsightly blemish on the beauty of the Bellevue/Argyle area which is a jewel of West Vancouver.

As a resident of West Vancouver over the last sixty years I would really like to see the enhancement of the Ambleside area by the burial of the power lines and I know that I am not alone.

Of course to bury the power lines will cost money. I have been informed by Collette Parsons of your Planning Department that she was informed by B. C. Hydro that the cost of burying the power lines will approximate \$1,000.00 per lineal meter. The area which concerns me the most is from 13<sup>th</sup> Street to the

electrical sub-station just beyond John Lawson Park and I am informed that the distance between those points is about 750 meters which would result in a cost of burial of approximately \$750,000.00.

That is the bad news, although the cost is not insuperable.

With a view to obtaining money toward the cost of burial I have spoken to our Member of Parliament. John Weston, to find out if there are any programs that the Federal Government has created under which the District might apply and receive funding.

To my pleasure I have been told that there are three Federal programs which might be applicable. I do not know the names of the programs but I would easily be able to get that information. Each of the programs require that application be made by you, the District, and that you commit the District to pay 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the cost of burial with the other 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s being made up of 1/3<sup>rd</sup> each from the Federal Government and the Provincial Government. I would expect the support of John Weston in making application.

I have spoken to some of the property owners on Bellevue and have some commitments to pay a portion of the cost. The residential owners of ( ) have agreed to make a contribution to the cost of burial and I expect that other owners along Bellevue may also be prepared to contribute.

But it really is West Vancouverites who will benefit from the beautification of the waterfront area and Ambleside.

I am reluctant to proceed further without the District being prepared to make application for a Federal and possibly a Provincial grant but it seems to me that burial of the power lines to beautify the area is a given and I hope that you all agree. If you do agree to request Federal and Provincial funding I would be pleased to take whatever part in the process that you might wish.

Should you wish me to speak to any one or more of you I would be pleased to do so.

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