

westvancouver

ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORTATION

3755 CYPRESS BOWL ROAD, WEST VANCOUVER, BC V7S 3E7
TELEPHONE: 604 925-7108 FACSIMILE: 604 925-5988

April 23, 2009

File: 1805.03

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Dear()

RE: Intersection of Duchess Avenue and 14th Street

I am in receipt of your letter dated April 20, 2009 to Mayor and Council and wish to respond to your concern for the change to the Stop control at this location. Please allow me to provide you with a rationale.

The Stop control at this location was reoriented from east/west to north/south for two reasons:

1. To create a disincentive to motorists short cutting along 14th Street to avoid 15th Street.
2. To better coordinate with Stop control throughout the neighbourhood, such that every second local road is controlled. This strategy allows for reasonable traffic flow while eliminating long segments of local road with no control.

I would also add that staff continues to assess this location. Budgeted for 2009 are funds for the installation of curb extensions at all four corners which will force motorists to park their vehicles well back of the intersection, thereby ensuring sight lines between approaching vehicles are optimal.

Lastly, this intersection has a history of crashes. Prior to the change over one year ago, there were eleven crashes at this location including four with injuries. This information was supplied by ICBC for the years 2001 (4), 2002 (1), 2003 (3) and 2005 (3). To view the crash history of any location over a short period of time does not always tell the story.

In closing, I would invite you to please telephone me at 604.925.7157 if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours truly,



Brent A. Dozzi, P. Eng., PTOE
Manager, Roads and Transportation

BAD/bw

cc. Mayor and Council

Doc. 354993.v1
File. 1805.03 (H)

April 20, 2009

Mayor & Council
The Corporation of
The District of West Vancouver,
750 -17th Street
West Vancouver, B. C.
V7V 3T3

Dear Mayor & Council,

Re: Intersection - Duchess Avenue and 14th Street

After two close calls at the above intersection in the last ten days, I thought it was time to notify you about the problem there.

That intersection had remained unchanged for at least the last 40 years. Why someone decided it needed changing now remains a mystery. I'm not the only one who has nearly had an accident there. A close friend was nearly t-boned by a pick-up truck which was proceeding north on 14th Street and presumably thought my friend who was travelling west on Duchess would be stopping at the now non-existent stop sign. The irony is that the truck driver was the one who was waving his arms about believing that my friend should have stopped when she was the one with the right-of-way. If you look at the topography at the intersection, particularly for north bound traffic on 14th, you will certainly note the blind spot.

I spoke to the police last week about that recent change in traffic control and they told me they were not in favour of the change. They said that there had been four **reported** accidents at that intersection since the change, one requiring hospitalization. They also stated that they too could not understand why after 40 years it was changed.

My suggestion is to change it back, and quickly.

Yours truly,

