

## ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORTATION

3755 CYPRESS BOWL ROAD, WEST VANCOUVER, BC V7S 3F7  
TELEPHONE: 604 925-7108 FACSIMILE: 604 925-5988

August 18, 2009

File: 1785.18

Don McPhee  
505 - 2135 Argyle Avenue  
West Vancouver BC V7V 1A5

Dear Mr. McPhee:

### **RE: Bellevue Avenue at 21st Street - Safety Issues**

Thank you for your recent letter in which you expressed your concern for traffic safety at the intersection of Bellevue Avenue and 21<sup>st</sup> Street. Your letter has been forwarded on to me for response.

Since we last corresponded, staff have been monitoring ICBC crash data for this intersection for the period 2005 to 2008. 2005 is the year staff commenced with the Bellevue Avenue Traffic Safety Improvement Project. That Project was specifically targeted at improving pedestrian safety and slowing vehicular traffic by:

- Providing a sidewalk along the north side of Bellevue Avenue from 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and connecting to Ambleside.
- Improving sight distance to/from pedestrians by extending curbs/sidewalks out into the road beyond where parked vehicles can block the sight line.
- Improving sight distance to/from pedestrians by forcing vehicles to park further back from intersections.
- Shortening crossing distances by extending curbs/sidewalks out into the road, thereby reducing pedestrian exposure to vehicles.
- Slowing vehicular traffic by extending curbs/sidewalks out into the road, thereby giving the motorist the perception of a narrower lane.

Upon reviewing the ICBC data for this location, I noted six crashes related to driver error (non-compliance with north/south STOP signs) or confusion. I intend to discuss these with my counterpart at ICBC. Staff will also perform a traffic turning movement count at this location this fall to confirm the need for north/south access priority. The rationale being, collector roads such as Bellevue Avenue are intended to reasonably move vehicular traffic and STOP signs are intended as access control devices, not speed or traffic control devices.

Lastly, I will re-commit to reviewing the sight line from/to the south approach to determine whether or not parking should be set further to the east.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to my attention. If you would like to meet or discuss further, please do not hesitate to call me at 604.925.7157.

Yours truly,



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

BAD/bw

cc: ✓ Mayor and Council

(16)  
1785-18


The Crescent Apartments  
2135 Argyle Ave.  
West Vancouver, BC.  
V7V 1A 5

To the Mayor and Council,  
The District of West Vancouver,  
750 - 17<sup>th</sup> Street,  
West Vancouver, BC. V7V 3T3

July 16, 2009

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Safety Issues and Need for a Four Way Stop at 21<sup>st</sup> St and Bellevue Ave.

In early 2008, we requested consideration for Four Way Stop Signs at the corner of 21<sup>st</sup> Street and Bellevue Avenue. We attach hereto, a copy of the reply from Brent A. Dozzi, P.Eng., dated March 10, 2008, indicating that four way stop signs were not a safety issue and that they would however, extend the 'no parking' regulation to the East on Bellevue Ave, adjacent to the intersection.

Since receiving the referenced letter, no changes have been made, and we still strongly believe that this intersection is becoming more dangerous for vehicles and particularly pedestrians.

Despite assertions that there are insufficient 'crashes' to warrant stop signs, do we need an accident causing injury or death before the request is taken seriously?

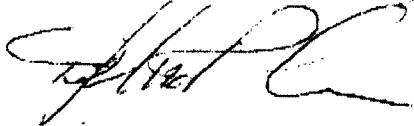
The following are our reasons for this request:

- 1) This area is one of the most densely populated in West Vancouver.
- 2) Many Seniors live in the area and cross this intersection to access the seniors centre, community centre, etc. and the bus stop.
- 3) The sight lines are extremely poor, particularly when above average height vehicles park close to the intersection.

- 4) Traffic South bound on 21<sup>st</sup>. Street, often use Bellevue to travel East or West rather than Marine Drive. 21<sup>st</sup>. Street is also, as you are aware, a major connection to the upper levels Highway.
- 5) Bellevue Ave. from 20<sup>th</sup> Street to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street is becoming a speedway, with many vehicles exceeding the speed limit and very few stopping for pedestrians in the 21<sup>st</sup> Street crosswalks. Stop signs would act as a calming influence on this.
6. To add to the danger, some motorists on Bellevue, used to the existing 4-way stops on 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, frequently treat 21<sup>st</sup> as a 4-way stop also, causing confusion which contributed to one collision in 2008 and to many near accidents.
7. The 2100 block on Argyle is a favourite parking area for those wishing to access the seawall walk, thus adding to the traffic flow.

We therefore ask that you kindly have this situation investigated so that stop signs can be installed before a serious accident occurs.

Yours truly,  
The Crescent Strata Council,



Don McPhee, Ste. 505,  
Strata Council Chair