Coquitiam

For Committee

January 30, 2012

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To: City Manager From: General Manager Planning and Development

Subject: Maillardville Neighbourhood Plan – Urban Design – Discussion Session

For: Council-in-Committee

Recommendation:

That Committee receive the report dated January 30, 2012 of the General Manager Planning and Development entitled "Maillardville Neighbourhood Plan – Urban Design – Discussion Session" for information.

Strategic Goal:

This report supports the City's corporate objectives to strengthen neighbourhoods and innovate to meet changing needs.

Background:

Work is currently under way to advance and complete the Maillardville Neighbourhood Plan (MNP) as a key priority of the Community Planning Division's 2012 Work Program. As previously reported, the MNP process is examining a number of strategic land use policies for Housing Choices, mediumdensity multi-family opportunities, heritage conservation and expression, urban and architectural design, parks and outdoor recreation, and integration of the Nelson Creek Watershed Management Plan.

Other issues outside this policy review scope, such as transportation and land use challenges associated with the Brunette Interchange and the Lougheed/Blue Mountain/Brunette intersection and industrial lands within the Lougheed/ Schoolhouse Employment Corridor, will be the subject of future planning processes.

As part of the current Plan process efforts, a session with the Committee at its February 6, 2012 meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss one of the important policy issues in Maillardville – urban design. Input from the Committee will assist in developing key policy deliverables associated with architectural and urban design in the MNP.

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Background cont'd/

Staff and consultants will provide a presentation which will include background information and facilitate discussion on the following areas:

- Emerging vision for Maillardville and possible implications for urban design directions;
- Past applications and present realities of the City's existing design guidelines;
- Strategic directions for future policy development regarding architectural design and public realm improvements.

Based on feedback and input from the Committee, staff will engage and consult with the community on this issue of urban and architectural design through two public events - a Public Talk on February 22, 2012 and a Design Workshop on February 25, 2012. The Committee's feedback and direction along with public input and ongoing technical review will be used to advance the continued development of the MNP, with a targeted completion by year end.

Financial Implications:

There are no immediate financial impacts related to this Council feedback session.

Conclusion:

The February 6, 2012 Committee session will assist in improving the process and policy outcomes from the MNP process and seek to better align this process with Council's expectations.

RN/Imc

This report was prepared by Russell Nelson, Planner 2 and reviewed by Bruce Irvine, Manager Community Planning.