

## CITY OF VANCOUVER

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: May 28, 2007 Author: Alan Zacharias Phone No.: 604.873.7214

RTS No.: 6791

VanRIMS No.: 13-2000-40 Meeting Date: June 12, 2007

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Proposed Closure of Portions of Homer Street and Hamilton Street

Adjacent to 1228 Homer Street

#### RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services to apply and raise title in the name of the City of Vancouver to a portion of Homer Street that contains the encroachment by the existing building at 1228 Homer Street, the said portion is shown on a Reference Plan, a reduced copy of which is attached hereto as Appendix "A".
- B. THAT all that volumetric portion of Homer Street included within the heavy outline and illustrated isometrically on a plan of survey, a reduced copy of which is attached as Appendix "B"; and, all that portion of Hamilton Street included within the heavy outline and illustrated isometrically on a plan of survey, a reduced copy of which is attached as Appendix "C"; be closed, stopped-up and that easements be granted to the owner of abutting Lot B of Lot 12 Block 76 District Lot 541 Plan 6488 ("Lot B") to contain the portions of the existing building which encroach onto Homer Street and Hamilton Street. The easements to be for the life of the encroaching portions of the existing building on Lot B and to be to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services.
- C. THAT fees for the document preparation, registration and use of the easements referred to in Recommendation "B" are to be in accordance with those charged for in an agreement prepared pursuant to the Encroachment By-law.
- D. THAT the Director of Legal Services be authorized to execute all documents and plans required.

E. THAT the authorities granted in Recommendations "A", "B" "C" and "D" be subject to the Approving Officer granting approval of the application to convert the previously occupied building situated on Lot B to strata title ownership.

If Council approves this report the Formal Resolution to close portions of Homer Street and Hamilton Street will be before Council later this day for approval.

#### COUNCIL POLICY

The authority for closing and disposing of street and lane is set out in the Vancouver Charter.

Permitting encroachments onto street and lane by listed heritage buildings is consistent with Council's past practice.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council authority to grant easements to contain the encroaching elements of the building located at 1228 Homer Street.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The subject site, Lot B of Lot 12 Block 76 District Lot 541 Plan 6488 ("Lot B") has a 1929 building, known as the Ellison Building (formerly 1226 Homer Street), listed in Category "C" of the Vancouver Heritage Registry. The site is subject to a Heritage Revitalization Agreement and a Heritage Designation By-law, registered on title respectively as BW269153 and BW270077, obliging the owner to preserve and restore the building exterior. The building is currently undergoing renovation (under DE408152) for a two storey addition and conversion from retail, office, and storage use to accommodate 27 residential units and ground floor retail. The owner has applied to the City for strata title conversion.

Portions of the building exterior are encroaching onto Homer Street and Hamilton Street.

The Registrar of Land Titles has taken the position that to satisfy the Strata Property Act, the strata corporation must have control over the portion of street or lane affected by the building encroachment for the life of the building. To accomplish this, the volumetric portions of the street that contain the encroachments must be closed, stopped-up, and an easement granted.

Recommendation A seeks to raise title to a portion of Homer Street. It will not be necessary to raise title to any portion of Hamilton Street since title already exists as Lot K, Except: (A) Part in Plan 4544, (B) Portions Coloured Yellow on Plan 4959, (C) Part in Explanatory Plan 17625, Block 76 District Lot 541 Plan 3469 ("Lot K"). Lot K was established as road in 1995 by document filed BJ374292 and contains a loading dock and related fixtures that will continue to be maintained by the Lot B owner under an Easement and Indemnity Agreement registered against the title of Lot B as BL301163.

### **DISCUSSION**

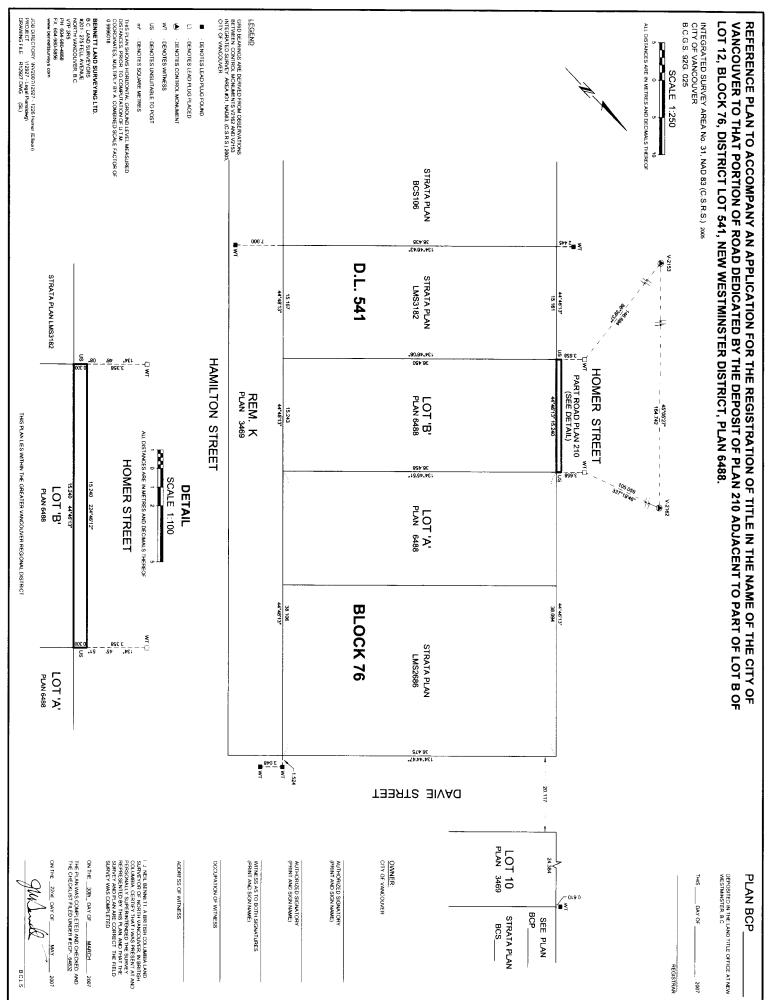
On the Homer Street side of Lot B a portion of the building consisting of the exterior wall, a third floor level cornice, and a roof level cornice encroach a maximum of 0.150 metres onto Homer Street.

On the Hamilton Street side of Lot B a portion of the building exterior wall consisting of an overhang encroaches a maximum of 0.2 metres onto Hamilton Street.

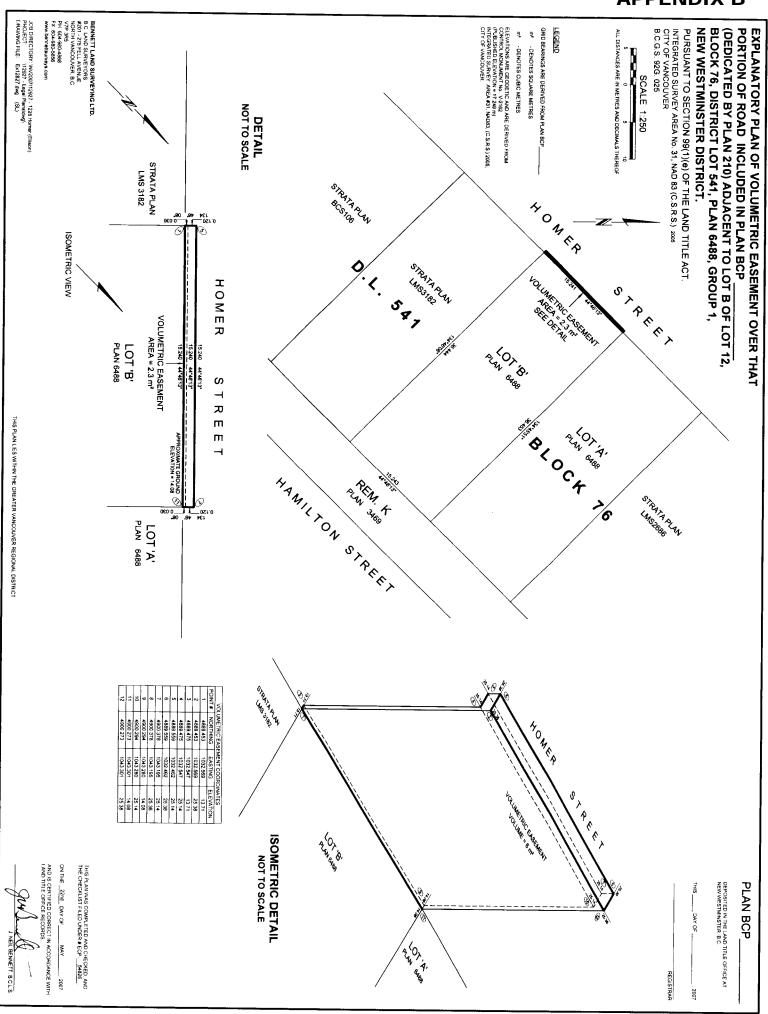
It is necessary to seek Council approval to close, stop-up and authorize registration of volumetric easements over the portions of Homer Street and Hamilton Street described above in Recommendation "B".

We are RECOMMENDING that fees be charged as per the Encroachment By-law. This is consistent with past Council direction.

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# **APPENDIX B**



## **APPENDIX C**

