



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Planning Committee
From: Alan Clark
Manager, Zoning
Re: Business Regulation Bylaw 7148
Amendment Bylaw 7330

Date: February 11, 2002
File: 0107-10-01

Staff Recommendation

That Bylaw 7330 which amends Schedule A of Business Regulation Bylaw 7148 to include Unit 125 – 8171 Ackroyd Road among the geographic areas in which a video arcade may operate, be introduced and given first, second and third readings.

Alan Clark
Manager, Zoning

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Law.....	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	

Staff Report

Origin

Staff have received an application for the establishment of a video arcade (amusement centre) at:

Unit 125 – 8171 Ackroyd Road. (23 machines).

Video arcades are currently restricted to locations specified in Schedule A of the Business Regulation Bylaw 7148. The proposed site is not identified in the Bylaw.

Analysis

The subject property is currently zoned Downtown Commercial District (C7), a classification which permits, among other uses, commercial entertainment.

Video arcades fall within the ambit of commercial entertainment.

Until recently, the “conventional” arcade has used standard amusement machines for playing games, and the City has imposed strict operating hours within which arcades would be permitted to operate.

Over the last couple of months businesses have opened up as “Internet Cafes”, where a coffee shop operates, complete with computers for customers to go on the internet for a fee, while having coffee and snacks.

However, site visits by staff identified that these establishments are in fact operating game playing amusement machines for a fee.

By operating on the pretext of an “Internet Café”, these establishments felt that they could operate without any hours of operation restrictions or any need to adhere to the Amusement Centre regulations in the Business Regulation Bylaw.

Staff have taken the position that they are indeed arcades, and that they would require Council approval to operate. This report is for a new location which has made application to the City to be considered a Video Arcade and to comply with all the requirements in the Business Regulation Bylaw.

Financial Impact

Nil.

Conclusion

The concept of the “Internet Café” is fairly new, and is growing in popularity, as the fifteen previously approved locations, and this new request can attest, and is expected to continue.

February 11, 2002

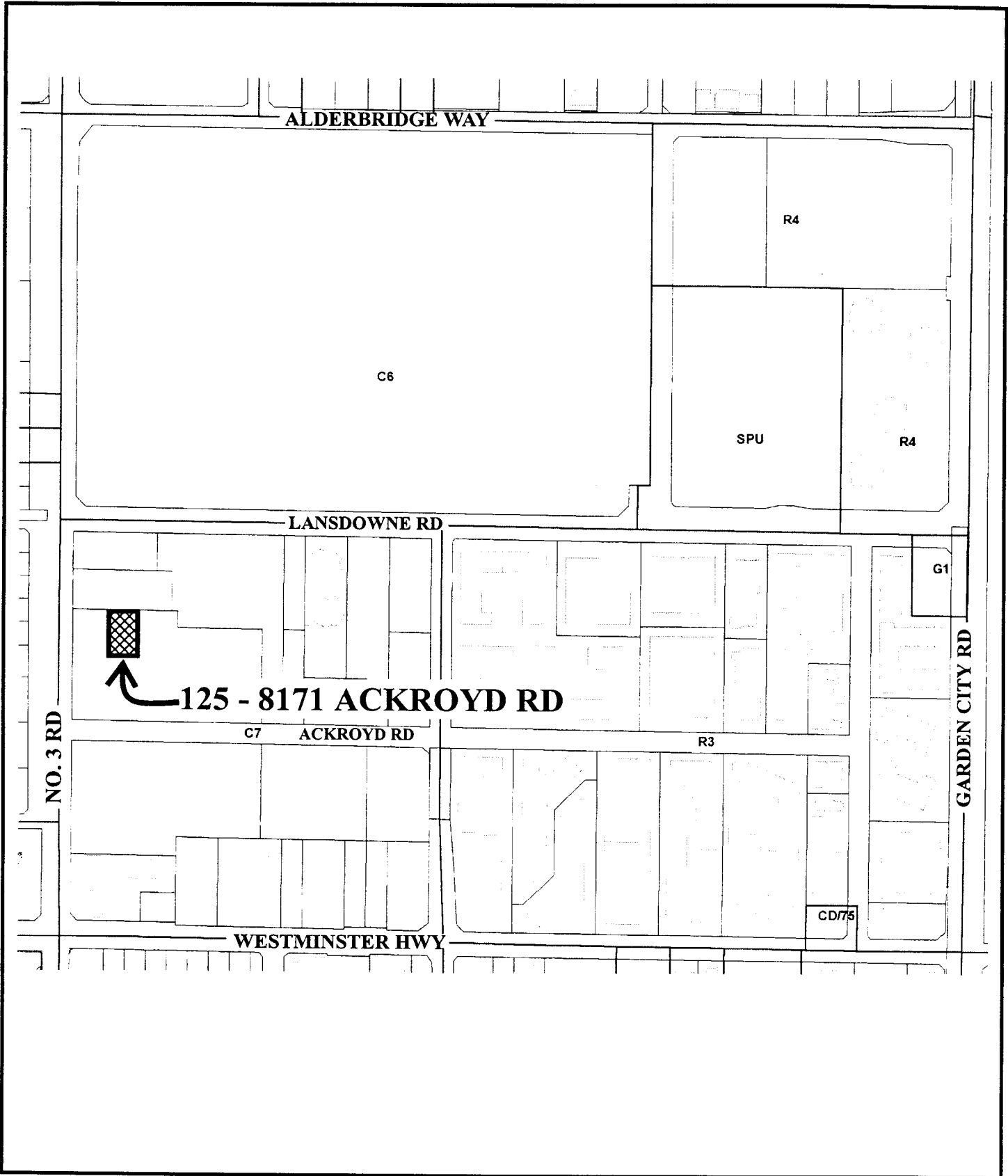
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Staff feel that such establishments should be regulated in the same manner as the conventional arcades to create a level playing field and to control the hours of operation, and can offer no reason why the application presented to operate a video arcade should not be favourably considered.



Alan Clark
Manager, Zoning

AJC:ajc



Unit 125 - 8171 Ackroyd Road

Original Date: 02/11/02

Revision Date:

Note: Dimensions are in METRES



Business Regulation Bylaw 7148, Amendment Bylaw 7330

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. Business Regulation Bylaw 7148 is amended by adding to Schedule "A" in alphabetical order:

#125 – 8171 Ackroyd Road;

and that the existing addresses be renumbered accordingly.
2. This Bylaw is cited as "**Business Regulation Bylaw 7148, Amendment Bylaw 7330**".

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

CITY OF RICHMOND
APPROVED for content by originating dept. <i>AC</i>
APPROVED for legality by Solicitor <i>J</i>

MAYOR

CITY CLERK