



CITY OF RICHMOND

REPORT TO COMMITTEE

TO: Planning Committee **DATE:** March 9, 2000
FROM: Sandra Tokarczyk **FILE:** 0100-01
 Manager, Property Use and Administration
RE: Soil Conservation Act
Housekeeping Regarding Enforcement Officers Appointed Duties and other
Act Requirements

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. That Resolution No. R95/3-7 adopted on February 13, 1995 be amended to read as follows:

“That Bob Lang, Supervisor – Property Use Inspections, be appointed as the local enforcement officer to administer and enforce soil regulations, subject to the directions of the local authority (i.e. Council), pursuant to Section 8(1) of the Soil Conservation Act.”
2. That Mrs. Sandra Tokarczyk, Manager – Property Use and Administration Department, be appointed as the alternative local enforcement officer to administer and enforce soil regulations subject to the directions of the local authority (i.e. Council) pursuant to Section 8(1) of the Soil Conservation Act.
3. That the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission be advised of these appointment changes.

Sandra Tokarczyk
Manager, Property Use and Administration

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ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

STAFF REPORT

ORIGIN

On October 5, 1999, Planning Committee directed staff to research and report on the matter of Soil Placement Permit extensions.

The Soil Conservation Act regulates the removal and placement of fill on agricultural lands within the ALR. The Act states that Council shall appoint an enforcement officer to administer and enforce these regulations. The officer is restricted to working within the City boundaries and is subject to the directions of its Council. On February 13, 1995, Council appointed Mr. Bob Lang as the enforcement officer under the Soil Conservation Act.

ANALYSIS

There has been a growing number of soil permit applicants which have requested that their soil permits be renewed. Some factors that contribute to renewal requests are normally poor seasonal conditions/weather or an inability to access the fill materials. The City's appointed enforcement officer could simplify and expedite the processing of these renewals for Council and decrease the permit response time for the applicant by approximately one months time. The reduction in processing time would be in keeping with the City's "*Blow Out Bureaucracy*" strategic initiative.

The process suggested would have the enforcement officer issue permit renewals rather than prepare reports to Committee/Council where:

- i) The applicant's intentions remain the same (i.e. the applicant only needs a time extension to achieve completion); and
- ii) City inspections and records reveal no significant or adverse impact to the community or public utilities (i.e. roads, noise, etc.)

Staff would only prepare reports to committee when either of the above two criteria have not been met.

Staff recommendation one would add "to administer" to Council's February 13, 1995 resolution (No. R95/3-7). This would allow the City's Soil Conservation Act enforcement officer (Bob Lang) to administer to the soil permit renewals.

Staff recommendation two would authorize and appoint Mrs. Sandra Tokarczyk, Manager – Property Use and Administration Department, as an alternate to the local enforcement officer. This would ensure continuity of the Soil Conservation Act process of administration and enforcement, during any absences of the present local enforcement officer.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

CONCLUSION

To maintain a more direct administration and enforcement of the Soil Conservation Act, Mr. Bob Lang's appointment as the local enforcement officer can be amended, and Mrs. Sandra Tokarczyk's appointment as an alternate local enforcement officer, can be supported by Council.

R.J. Lang
Supervisor, Property Use Inspections

RL:fjm