



CITY OF RICHMOND

REPORT TO COMMITTEE

TO: Planning Committee
FROM: Alan Clark
Manager, Zoning

DATE: October 12, 2001
FILE: 0107-10-01

**RE: Business Regulation Bylaw No. 7148
Amendment Bylaw No. 7290**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Bylaw No. 7290 which amends Schedule A of Business Regulation Bylaw No 7148 to include:

#160 – 8611 Alexandra Road;

#1036 – 8300 Capstan Way;

#115 – 4231 Hazelbridge Way;

#2182 – 3779 Sexsmith Road; and

8291 Westminster Highway, 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 has received applications for the establishment of video arcades (amusement centres) at:

Game Station Entertainment Ltd. #160 – 8611 Alexandra Road. (50 machines);

Heavy Metal Professional Gaming. #1036 – 8300 Capstan Way. (24 machines);

The Seige Holding Ltd. #115 – 4231 Hazelbridge Way. (30 machines.);

Time Square. #2182 – 3779 Sexsmith Road. (10 machines); and

Richmond Hack Internet Café. 8291 Westminster Highway. (20 machines.)

Video arcades are currently restricted to locations specified in Schedule A of the Business Regulation Bylaw No 7148. The proposed sites are not identified in the Bylaw.

ANALYSIS

Three of the properties listed are currently zoned Automobile – Oriented Commercial District (C6), one is currently zoned Downtown Commercial District (C7), and one is currently zoned Comprehensive Development District (CD/39). Classifications which permit, 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 have identified that these establishments are in fact operating the computers as game playing amusement machines, for a fee.

By operating on the pretext of an “internet café”, these establishments felt 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. At the October 9th. 2001 Council meeting, Council approved the locations for nine such establishments, and this report is for an additional five locations, which have 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

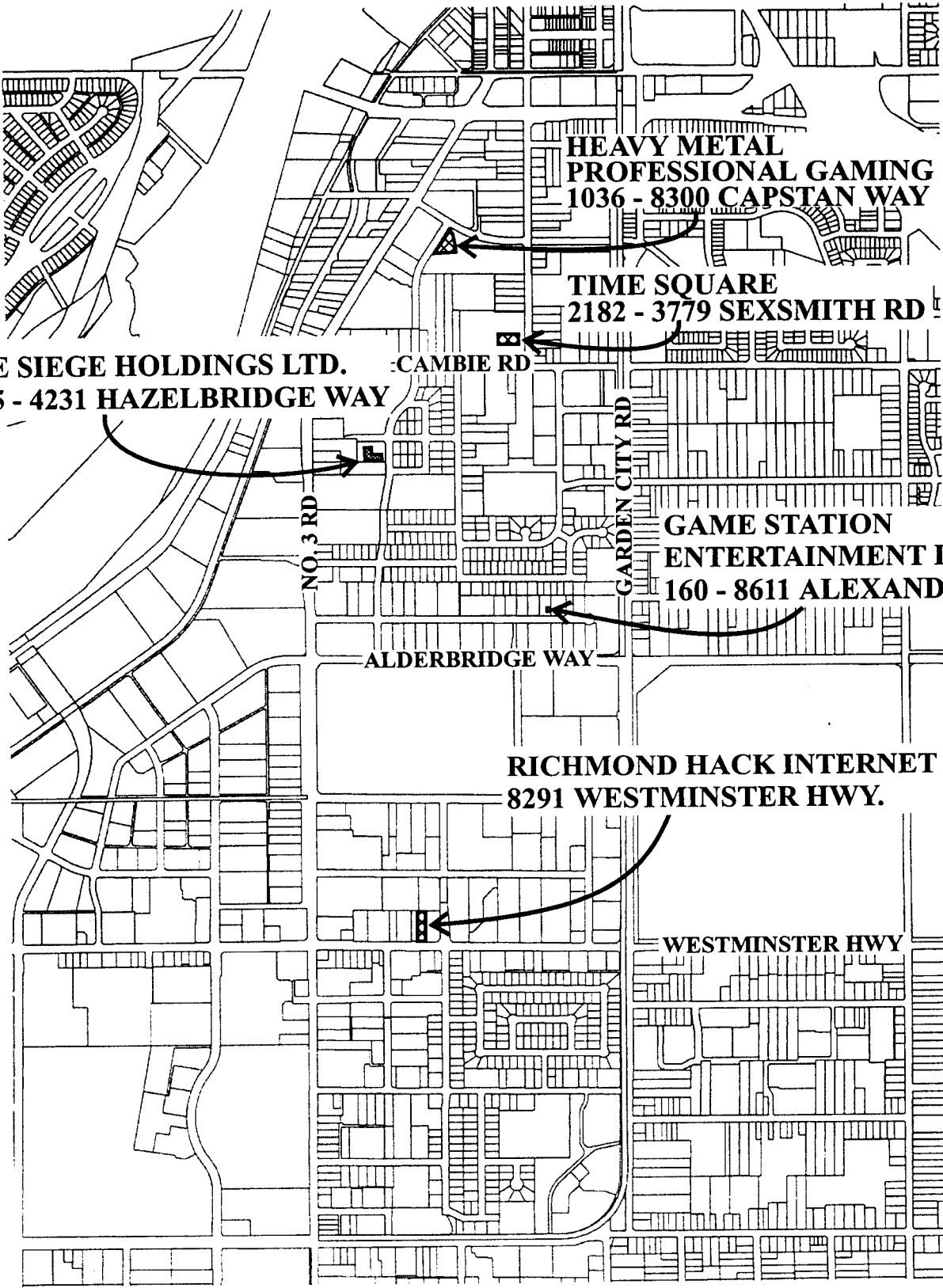
The concept of the "internet café" is fairly new, and is growing in popularity, as the nine previously approved locations, and these five requests can attest, and is expected to continue.

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 five applications presented to operate video arcades should not be favourably considered.



Alan Clark
Manager, Zoning

AJC:ajc



**HEAVY METAL
PROFESSIONAL GAMING**
1036 - 8300 CAPSTAN WAY

TIME SQUARE
2182 - 3779 SEXSMITH RD

THE SIEGE HOLDINGS LTD.
#115 - 4231 HAZELBRIDGE WAY

**GAME STATION
ENTERTAINMENT LTD.**
160 - 8611 ALEXANDRA RD

RICHMOND HACK INTERNET CAFE
8291 WESTMINSTER HWY.



Amusement Centre Locations

Original Date: 10/18/01
Revision Date: 10/24/01
Note: Dimensions are in METRES

CITY OF RICHMOND
BYLAW 7290
BUSINESS REGULATION BYLAW NO. 7148
AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 7290

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. Business Regulation Bylaw 7148 is amended by adding to Schedule "A" in alphabetical sequence:
 - a) #160 – 8611 Alexandra Road;
 - b) #1036 – 8300 capstan Way;
 - c) #115 – 4231 Hazelbridge Way;
 - d) #2182 – 3779 Sexsmith Road
 - e) 8291 Westminster Highway;

and that the existing addresses be renumbered accordingly.

2. This Bylaw is cited as "**Business Regulation Bylaw No. 7148, Amendment Bylaw No. 7290**".

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

CITY OF RICHMOND
APPROVED for content by originaling dept.
APPROVED for legality by Solicitor

MAYOR

CITY CLERK