

Attachment #3

Summary of the History of 2038 Ninth Avenue

SUMMARY OF THE HISTORY OF 2038 NINTH AVENUE

- 2038 Ninth Avenue and 2035 London Street were part of the area west of Twentieth Street, previously called DL172, which became part of the City in 1965. A building on the properties had been used by the maintenance crews for DL 172;
- In 1965 the Recreation Department, in an effort to offer Recreation programs to the residents of Connaught Heights, proposed to use of 2038 Ninth Avenue including the building. In order to do this the City was required to receive ownership of the properties and building from the Province. [NOTE FROM PLANNING STAFF: It was likely as part of this process that the 2038 Ninth Avenue was granted to the City for park and recreation use.] It is believed the 2035 London Street was purchased;
- Once the sale/transfer were completed the City began to offer programs in the building and put a small playground on the other portion of the properties. Recreation services continued at that location until 1974.
- In 1974 the City received a Federal/Provincial grant for a Neighbourhood Improvement Program (\$312,000). City staff in collaboration with a Connaught Heights Citizen Planning Committee developed and had approved a plan for a park with playground (1.67 acres; \$154,000) and a new community centre;
- The needed property was consolidated around the elementary school including: closing Twenty-second Street between Ninth Ave and Tenth Ave; using the BC Hydro Right of Way; and some land acquisition (\$105,000);
- In an agreement between the City and School Board 3500 square feet of space was added to the school which included an extension to the existing gym and an addition of a multi purpose room to be used by both the school and community (\$178,000);
- Part of the proposal to finance this project had originally been for the City to sell the properties where the old Connaught Heights Community Hall stood (2038 Ninth Avenue and 2035 London Street);
- After completion of the project the programs and services were moved from the subject site to the new site, and the City demolished the old building. Once the new site was opened the old properties were no longer considered as part of the Parks and Recreation inventory but empty City lots.
- The Connaught Heights park playground was recently upgraded by the City.

Source: Provided by former City Administrator and Director of Parks and Recreation for New Westminster.