



To: Public Works and Transportation Committee **Date:** April 14, 2009
From: Victor Wei, P. Eng.
 Director, Transportation **File:** 0150-20-ICBC1-01
Re: **ICBC/CITY OF RICHMOND ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR 2009**

Staff Recommendation

1. That the list of proposed road safety improvement projects, as described in the attached report, be endorsed for submission to the ICBC 2009 *Road Improvement Program* for cost sharing.
2. That should the above applications be successful, the Director of Transportation be authorized to negotiate and execute the cost-share agreements.

Victor Wei, P. Eng.
 Director, Transportation
 (4131)

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ROUTED TO:		CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Engineering	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
Law	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
Budgets & Accounting.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
RCMP.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	REVIEWED BY CAO	YES
			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At the March 25, 2008 regular Council meeting, Council endorsed a number of proposed joint ICBC/City of Richmond road safety improvement projects for 2008. This report summarizes the projects implemented in 2008 with funding from ICBC and presents a list of projects proposed to be implemented with funding contributions from ICBC as part of the 2009 ICBC/City of Richmond *Road Improvement Program* partnership.

Analysis

1. Partnership with ICBC on Road Improvement Program

The City has been in partnership with ICBC in the *Road Improvement Program* since 1994. This partnership is a vital component of the City's traffic safety program as it enables the City not only to undertake more traffic safety enhancements than it could alone, but also to expedite some of these road safety improvement projects. Each year, a list of potential projects is developed for inclusion in the *Road Improvement Program* based on the results of joint ICBC/City traffic safety studies and input from the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee and other stakeholders. Past funding from ICBC has contributed to the implementation of projects such as the realignment of left-turn lanes at intersections to improve sightlines, the installation and upgrading of pedestrian crosswalks and the installation of new traffic signals. New changes to the Program effective in 2009 include:

- an allowance to carry over ICBC funding to the next calendar year, to accommodate phased multi-year projects and facilitate long-term planning;
- ability for larger projects that achieve greater traffic safety benefits over a longer period to receive increased funding; and
- an "innovation fund" to support pilot projects of new technologies and/or pro-active countermeasures.

These changes have the effect of broadening the range of projects eligible for funding consideration. Thus, as detailed in Section 3, the City is proposing to submit significantly more projects to the Program for cost-share consideration than in past years.

2. 2008 ICBC/City of Richmond Road Improvement Projects

In Richmond, nine projects received committed ICBC funding of \$92,000 in 2008. The balance was funded from the approved 2008 Major Capital Works Program. The following table summarizes the 2008 City projects partly funded by the ICBC *Road Improvement Program*.

Location	Project Description	ICBC Contribution Received
Granville Ave & Buswell St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New traffic signal 	\$29,000
Garden City Rd & Ferndale Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southbound left-turn bay on Garden City Road 	\$26,000
Arterial Road Crosswalk Upgrades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granville Ave & Azure Gate • No. 1 Road & Pacemore Ave • St. Albans Road & Bennett Road 	\$16,000

Location	Project Description	ICBC Contribution Received
Left-Turn Advance Arrow: Various Locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railway Ave & Blundell Rd: eastbound to northbound • Railway Ave & Francis Rd: eastbound to northbound • Railway Ave & Steveston Hwy: southbound to eastbound • Viking Way & Bridgeport Rd: northbound to westbound 	\$21,000
Total ICBC Funding		\$92,000

3. Proposed 2009 ICBC/City of Richmond Road Safety Improvement Projects

The table below identifies a number of projects proposed for submission to the 2009 *Road Improvement Program* for funding contribution from ICBC. The implementation of these projects, as well as any additional projects identified prior to ICBC's deadline towards mid-2009, will be subject to review by and cost sharing with ICBC.

Proposed 2009 ICBC/City of Richmond Road Improvement Program Projects	Estimated Total Cost	Source of City Funds*
Lansdowne Rd Extension: interim road Hollybridge Way-Gilbert Rd (also submitted to Build Canada Fund)	\$2,000,000	\$666,667 Potential Re-allocation of City Funding (to be paid back from future Roads DCC)
Accessible Pedestrian Signals: enhancements to signals at various intersections	\$300,000	\$300,000 2008-09 Enhanced Accessible Signal Program
Fourth Avenue Walkway: Steveston Hwy-Chatham St	\$140,000	\$140,000 2008 Neighbourhood Traffic Safety Program & 2009 Capital Program
Westminster Highway & McLean Ave: new full traffic signal	\$120,000	\$120,000 2009 Traffic Signal Program & DCC Credits
Westminster Highway & Gilley Road: new full traffic signal	\$80,000	\$80,000 2009 Traffic Signal Program & DCC Credits
Intelligent Traffic Information Systems: installation of video cameras	\$100,000	\$100,000 2009 Capital Program
Westminster Highway & Jacombs Road: southbound right-turn lane on Jacombs Rd and signal modifications	\$200,000	\$200,000 2009 Miscellaneous Intersection Improvements & Traffic Signal Programs
Arterial Road Crosswalk Upgrades to Special Crosswalks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granville Ave & Ledway Rd • Williams Rd & Aquila Rd • No. 5 Rd & Bird Rd • Railway Ave & Colbeck Rd • Francis Rd & Craigflower Dr 	\$195,000	\$107,500 2009 Arterial Road Crosswalk Program
Shell Road Bicycle Route: Athabasca Dr to Steveston Hwy	\$805,000	\$360,000 2005 Cycling Network Expansion Program
Canada Line Cycling Connections: Van Horne Way-Great Canadian Way pedestrian signal & cycling facilities on Van Horne Way	\$365,000	\$182,500 2009 Traffic Signal Program & 2008 Bicycle Lane Program
Minoru Boulevard Bike Route: Granville Ave to Alderbridge Way	\$130,000	\$65,000 2009 Cycling Network Expansion Program
Massey Tunnel Bike Shuttle Cycling Connections: Riverside Industrial Park	\$25,000	\$12,500 2009 Cycling Network Expansion Program

Proposed 2009 ICBC/City of Richmond Road Improvement Program Projects	Estimated Total Cost	Source of City Funds*
No. 6 Road: improvements to S-Curve between Westminster Hwy & Blundell Rd	\$55,000	\$55,000 2006 & 2009 Neighbourhood Traffic Safety Programs
Illuminated Street Name Signs: 60 signs at various locations	\$150,000	\$150,000 2009 Traffic Signal Program
Garden City Rd & Cook Road: intersection modifications	\$33,600	Roads DCC Credits to Developer
Crash Barriers: Knight St at Westminster Hwy for southbound traffic	\$45,000	\$45,000 2009 Miscellaneous Intersection Improvements
TOTAL	\$4,743,600	

* Where City funds do not cover the total estimated cost, the balance would be funded by grants from external agencies (e.g., TransLink).

ICBC's potential funding contribution to these projects will be determined by historical traffic accident rates at these locations and the estimated reduction in ICBC claim costs resulting from the proposed traffic safety improvements as well as eligibility of the project vis-à-vis the new funding guidelines. The outcome of ICBC's review of the above projects, as well as any additional projects identified, will be reported back as part of 2010 ICBC *Road Improvement Program*.

Financial Impact

The funding sources for the City's portion of the costs of the projects have been previously approved or endorsed by Council as outlined in Section 3 of this report. Several of the identified projects have additional external grants either approved or pending approval from other agencies (e.g., federal Build Canada Fund, TransLink, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure). No projects will be undertaken unless sufficient combined funding sources (City and external agencies) are secured to cover the estimated project cost.

Conclusion

ICBC is a significant partner working with the City to promote traffic safety in Richmond. The traffic safety initiatives jointly implemented by ICBC and the City, including various road and traffic management enhancements, educational efforts and enforcement measures, have resulted in safer streets for all road users in the City. Therefore, staff recommend that Council endorse the various local road safety improvements for submission to the 2009 joint ICBC/City of Richmond *Road Improvement Program*. Upon approval by ICBC of any projects, a cost-share agreement will be executed by staff with ICBC.



Jean Caravan
Transportation Planner (4035)



For: Syed Shah, P.Eng., M.Eng.
Transportation Engineer (4049)