



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: June 16th, 2005
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Meeting Date: July 12, 2005

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: General Manager of Engineering Services
SUBJECT: Robson Street Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve the allocation of \$250,000 as the City's funding for the Robson Street Infrastructure Rehabilitation project under the Canada - B.C. Infrastructure Program; source of funding to be the \$20 million in borrowing authority approved by the electorate for projects that receive senior government cost sharing, with this funding to be replaced from the 2006 - 2008 Capital Plan allocation for Streets.

COUNCIL POLICY

In 1985, Council endorsed the Federation of Canadian Municipalities initiatives to take steps to halt the significant decline in the condition of infrastructure in urban areas, placing emphasis on maintenance and reconstruction as opposed to new construction, in partnership with senior governments.

In 1997, Council endorsed extending the 1993 Canada Infrastructure Works Program, reiterated that there should be municipal representation on the Management Committee and noted that the only priority should be for projects that replace existing, deteriorating municipal infrastructure.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council approve the allocation of \$250,000 for the City's share of funding for the Robson Street Infrastructure Rehabilitation project under the Canada - B.C. Infrastructure Program.

BACKGROUND

The Canada - B.C. Infrastructure Program is a joint Federal/Provincial initiative that provides 2/3 funding for Local Government Infrastructure projects. The program is currently providing 2/3 funding for City Sewers projects worth \$18 million.

DISCUSSION

In December 2004, the City applied to the Canada - B.C. Infrastructure program for funding for a proposed Robson Street Infrastructure Rehabilitation project, to include rehabilitation of sidewalks, pavement, the addition of trees, and possibly a pedestrian-activated signal. On June 15th 2005, the Province notified the City that it is interesting in funding 2/3 of the project. However, the Province will give the project further consideration only if the City is committed to the project. The Province would accept City Council approval in principle of the City's 1/3 funding share as sufficient expression of commitment to fund the project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that the City's share of project costs be funded on an interim basis from the \$20 million of borrowing authority approved by electorate for the City's share of projects receiving senior government cost sharing. This funding would be repaid out of the Engineering 2006 - 2008 Capital Plan, subject to approval of the plan by Council.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

If funding is approved, the project will most likely be completed in 2006.

CONCLUSION

It is proposed that Council approve the allocation of \$250,000 for the City's share of funding for the Robson Street Infrastructure Rehabilitation project under the Canada - B.C. Infrastructure Program.

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