



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: February 14, 2008
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RTS No.: 7235
VanRIMS No.: 13-1200-20
Meeting Date: April 1, 2008

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Local Improvements by Initiative - June 12, 2008
First and Second Step Report

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the projects listed in Appendix I be advanced as Local Improvements by Initiative and brought before a Court of Revision on June 12, 2008.
- B. THAT the reports of the City Engineer and Director of Finance be adopted together with details of the Second Step Report as summarized in Appendix II, and Council declare it is desirable that the projects set out in Appendix I of the report be undertaken and deem that each will specially benefit the real property abutting it. (Requires two-thirds approval of those present). Source of funds for the total City share of \$160,559 is from the existing 2006 Engineering Basic Capital Account for New Sidewalks (CC1EA2AX1).
- C. THAT sidewalk projects numbered 1-4-inclusive, as described in Appendix I, be designated as "pedestrian collector routes" so that the abutting residential property owners' rates are reduced by the required 25%.
- D. THAT should any of the sidewalk projects noted in Recommendation "C" be defeated that they proceed for Council's consideration on Special Grounds.

COUNCIL POLICY

Policies governing the Local Improvement process are set out in the Vancouver Charter and Local Improvement Procedure By-law.

PURPOSE

A Court of Revision is scheduled for June 12, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. to review a number of petition and initiative projects. The report for petition projects will be advanced to Council separately at a later date to allow as much time as possible for residents to circulate their petitions. The purpose of this report is to begin the formal Local Improvement process by advancing the initiative projects to the Court of Revision and reporting on the financial arrangements for the projects. Approval of this report does not commit Council to undertake the projects.

DISCUSSION

First Step

As required by the Local Improvement Procedure By-law, projects for the following categories and detailed on the attached schedule (Appendix I), are advanced to Council by Initiative for the review at a Court of Revision, which will be held at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, June 12, 2008.

Court #628

I. Pedestrian Collector Sidewalks

SIDEWALKS

On April 8, 2004, Council approved a policy that would expedite the completion of the City sidewalk network:

- on both sides of transit streets
- on both sides of arterial streets
- on both sides (as needed) of pedestrian collector routes
- on local residential streets

The construction of new sidewalks responds to Council's top two priorities for transportation improvements, pedestrians and transit, as identified by The Central Area Plan (1991), City Plan (1995), Transportation Plan (1997), Downtown Transportation Plan (2002) and the report of the Sidewalk Task Force (2002).

To expedite completion of the sidewalk network, Council also approved a recommendation to revise cost sharing such that the City now pays between 65% and 80% of the cost depending on applicable relief provided to owners.

Should a majority of owners for a City initiative project object, the project is normally considered defeated. However, noting Council's priorities, staff will be recommending to Council that all defeated projects proceed immediately on Special Grounds despite property owner objections. Council has the authority to proceed on Special Grounds as specified in Section 506(3) of the Vancouver Charter.

These projects are on transit routes, provide access to transit routes, schools, and parks. The following sidewalk projects are being initiated to complete the sidewalk network from King Edward Avenue to 26th/Peveril Avenue. Completion of these projects would also provide pedestrians safe access to Hillcrest Park.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Local improvements are estimated at \$174,128. The City's share is \$160,559 funded from the 2006 Engineering Basic Capital Account for New Sidewalks (CC1EA2AX1).

Second Step

The Director of Finance reports as follows:

In accordance with the Local Improvement Procedure By-law, I am submitting the attached City Engineers' Report. The estimated cost of these projects is \$174,128. The property owners' share of the projects is \$ 13,569. The City's share is \$160,559. I have to report that the necessary financial arrangements can be made to carry out this work from existing 2006 Engineering Department Basic Capital Accounts.

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COURT OF REVISION - JUNE 12, 2008

INITIATIVE PROJECTS - COURT #628

I. PEDESTRIAN COLLECTOR SIDEWALKS

On April 8, 2004, Council approved the recommendations to establish and adopt policy that would expedite the completion of the City sidewalk network:

- on both sides of transit streets;
- on both sides of arterial streets;
- on both sides (as needed) of pedestrian collector routes;
- on both sides of higher-zoned streets; and
- on local residential streets.

The construction of new sidewalks responds to Council's top two priorities for transportation improvements; pedestrians and transit as identified by The Central Area Plan (1991), City Plan (1995), Transportation Plan (1997), Downtown Transportation Plan (2002) and the report of the Sidewalk Task Force (2002).

To expedite completion of the sidewalk network, Council also approved a recommendation to revise cost sharing such that the City now pays between 65% to 80% of the costs depending on applicable reliefs provided to owners. By reducing the costs to owners, support should increase for sidewalk projects. A formal notice will be mailed to the owners of property adjacent the following City Initiative projects advising them of the project, the cost of the project and their individual assessment. The notice also advises owners of the date for objections to be received and the date of the Court of Revision.

Should a majority of owners for a City Initiative project object, the project is normally considered defeated. However, noting Council's priorities, staff will be recommending to Council that all defeated projects proceed immediately on Special Grounds despite property owner objections. Council has the authority to proceed on Special Grounds as specified in Section 506(3) of the Vancouver Charter.

These projects are on transit routes, provide access to transit routes, schools, and parks. The following sidewalk projects are being initiated to complete the sidewalk network from King Edward Avenue to 26th/Peveril Avenue. Completion of these projects would also provide pedestrians safe access to Hillcrest Park.

1. Columbia Street, East Side, from King Edward Avenue to 26th Avenue
Missing sidewalk link to park and transit
2. Manitoba Street, East Side, from King Edward Avenue to 26th Avenue
Missing sidewalk link to school, park and transit
3. Manitoba Street, West Side, from 26th Avenue to Peveril Avenue
Missing sidewalk link to park

- I. PEDESTRIAN COLLECTOR SIDEWALKS (cont'd)
4. Yukon Street, Both Sides, from King Edward Avenue to 26th Avenue
Missing sidewalk to transit

CITY OF VANCOUVER - LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS DETAILED SECOND STEP REPORT

Summary of Estimated Costs and Certificates to the Attached Local Improvements Estimates
Advanced on the Initiative Principle for a Court of Revision on June 12, 2008

COURT #628						
CATEGORY	ITEM NUMBER	TYPE OF PROJECT	P.O. SHARE	CITY'S SHARE	TOTAL COST	EXISTING FUNDS
I	1-4	Pedestrian Collector Sidewalks	\$13,569	\$160,559	\$174,128	\$160,559 30008835
		TOTAL	\$13,569	\$160,559	\$174,128	\$160,559

The estimated costs provide for necessary incidental work. The cost of the property owners' share of the above noted projects and interest, is repayable over 15 years.

Certified correct as to measurements

Collector of Taxes

Director of Finance

City Engineer

Certified adopted by the City Council on _____

City Clerk