



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: December 2, 2016
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Meeting Date: December 13, 2016

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager of Finance, Risk and Supply Chain Management and
General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Funding Applications for Active Transportation Projects

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve a funding application to the Bike BC Program for \$1 million for the 2017 cycling components of the Burrard Bridge Renewal and Transportation Improvement Project.
- B. THAT Council approve a funding application to the Bike BC Program for \$1 million for the cycling components of the False Creek South Seawall Improvement Project located between Vanier Park and Charleson Park.
- C. THAT Council approve a funding application to the Bike BC Program for \$450,000 for the Adanac Bikeway Improvement Project.

REPORT SUMMARY

The City's [2015-2018 Capital Plan](#) funding strategy contemplates securing of senior government contributions toward a number of Council priorities, one of which being green transportation projects. This report seeks Council's approval for submitting funding applications to the Provincial government in support of three shovel-ready cycling improvement projects.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Federal and Provincial funding programs typically require a resolution of Council as part of the application package.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Finance, Risk and Supply Chain Management and General Manager of Engineering Services recommend approval of the report.

REPORT

Background/Context

The [Bike BC Program](#) is an ongoing funding program managed by Provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. This cost-sharing program assists local governments in developing “new infrastructure which forms part of a municipality, regional district, or First Nations community’s adopted bicycle network plan”.

The focus of the BikeBC Program is on cycling for “transportation purposes which includes cycling trips to and from work, school, tourism and errands”. Projects must be “shelf ready”, i.e. “construction can begin immediately once provincial funding has been announced”.

A total of \$8 million in funding is available for the 2017-18 fiscal year for all of British Columbia. The maximum contribution is 50% of a project’s eligible costs, up to \$1 million.

The deadline for submitting applications is December 16, 2016. A resolution of Council is required for each funding application.

Strategic Analysis

Staff is recommending the following three eligible projects be submitted to the Bike BC Program, all important projects that will assist in increasing the number of cyclists in support of the City’s Transportation 2040 modal split target (at least 2/3 of trips by walking, cycling and transit):

- **Burrard Bridge Renewal and Transportation Improvement Project**
Burrard Bridge is a 1 km bridge spanning False Creek, connecting Kitsilano and Fairview neighbourhoods to downtown Vancouver. Approximately 2,500 pedestrians and 6,000 cyclists per day cross the bridge during summer months, making it Vancouver’s busiest active transportation corridor. The bridge, opened in 1932, was not built with any cycling facilities. Bicycle lanes were painted on both sidewalks in the mid-1980s and temporary cycling improvements were instituted in 2009.

On July 22, 2015, Council approved a comprehensive set of permanent improvements for [Burrard Bridge and the Burrard/Pacific intersection](#).

Construction started in March 2016 and will be completed in late 2017. Staff are recommending that the 2017 cycling components of the Burrard Bridge Renewal and Transportation Improvement Project be submitted to the Bike BC Program:

- a) northbound bicycle lane on the bridge;
- b) northbound bicycle lane on Burrard Street between Pacific and Drake Streets;
- c) eastbound bicycle lane on Pacific Street between Burrard and Howe Streets;
- d) westbound bicycle lane on Pacific Street between Hornby and Burrard Streets.

These cycling components are estimated to cost \$3 million and staff is recommending that the City request \$1 million in Provincial funding (33% of project costs).

- **False Creek South Seawall Improvement Project**

The False Creek South Seawall is a 4 km route between Vanier Park and Science World. Approximately 3,000 pedestrians and 2,000 cyclists per day travel along this section of the seawall during summer months. The False Creek South Seawall was Vancouver's first urban seawall, with the initial segment completed in the mid-1970s, at a time when no specific measures were implemented to accommodate the needs of cyclists. The shared pathway, narrow in many sections, leads to conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists.

On May 4, 2016, Council approved a series of improvements for the [False Creek South Seawall between Vanier Park and Cambie Bridge](#). Staff are recommending that the cycling components of the project located between Vanier Park and Charleson Park be submitted to the Bike BC Program. The cycling components in this section are estimated to cost \$3.5 million and staff is recommending that the City request \$1 million in Provincial funding (~30% of project costs).

- **Adanac Bikeway Improvement Project**

The Adanac Bikeway is 6 km route connecting False Creek to Boundary Road along Union and Adanac Streets. It is one of Vancouver's most popular bikeways, with approximately 4,000 cyclists per day during summer months and 2,000 cyclists per day in winter months. The Adanac Bikeway was Vancouver's first on-street bikeway, opening in 1993. A series of spot improvements have gradually been implemented over the years to improve safety along the route.

Four spot improvements are planned for 2017 at the following locations:

- a) between Gore and Dunlevy Avenues immediately east of Chinatown;
- b) at Vernon Drive where the bikeway jogs between Union and Adanac Streets;
- c) at Victoria Drive;
- d) at Nanaimo Street.

Stakeholder consultation has already begun and public engagement on the detailed plans will be conducted in January 2017. The project is estimated to cost \$900,000 and staff is recommending that the City request \$450,000 in Provincial funding (50% of project costs). A series of walking improvements will also be implemented along Union and Adanac Streets, though these will not form part of the funding application.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)***Financial***

The City is seeking \$2.45 million in Bike BC funding for three cycling improvement projects in 2017 (33% of overall project costs). Funding for the City's share of the projects has already been approved by Council. If one or several applications are successful, staff will report back to Council to adjust the project budgets via the Quarterly Budget Adjustment report.

CONCLUSION

The City has the opportunity to secure up to \$2.45 million in Provincial government contributions by applying for three cycling improvement projects to the Bike BC Program.

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