



CITY OF RICHMOND

REPORT TO COMMITTEE

TO: Public Works and Transportation Committee

TO PW & T - FEB. 7, 2001

FROM: Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
Manager, Transportation

DATE: January 12, 2001

FILE: 0100-20-RCYC1

RE: RICHMOND CITIZENS CYCLING COMMITTEE - ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE INITIATIVES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. That the proposed 2001 initiatives of the Richmond Citizens Cycling Committee regarding cycling education and awareness, as described in the attached joint report from the Richmond Citizens Cycling Committee and Transportation staff, be endorsed.
2. That Council formally acknowledge and recognize the Richmond Citizens Cycling Committee's key role in the planning and implementation of cycling improvements in the City and encourage the continued joint efforts of the Committee and Transportation staff to promote cycling in Richmond.

Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
Manager, Transportation

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STAFF REPORTORIGIN

The Richmond Citizens Cycling Committee was formed in 1993 and consists of members of the community who have cycling interests ranging from daily commuting to recreational cycling. This report provides an update to Council of the Committee's recent activities and past achievements and also proposes a number of initiatives for 2001 that focus on cycling education and awareness.

ANALYSIS1. **Recent Activities and Achievements**1.1 Continual Expansion of Richmond Cycling Network

Over the past several years, the City has been able to make a number of significant additions to its 26-km cycling network with the support of the provincial Cycling Network Program (CNP). The CNP is a cost-shared program through which the provincial government assists local governments in the construction of new transportation cycling infrastructure. The Committee works with City staff to identify, prioritize and endorse the proposed projects that the City submits to the CNP for funding approval.

The table below lists the recent cycling projects completed in Richmond under the auspices of the CNP.

Year	Route	Infrastructure	Km	Total Network Km
1997	Williams Road Bicycle Route (No. 1 Road to No. 5 Road)	Designated bicycle lanes provided in both directions.	6.7	20.0
1998	Granville Avenue Bicycle Extension (Railway Avenue to No. 1 Road)	Designated bicycle lanes provided in both directions.	0.8	20.8
1998	Shell Road Bicycle Route (Westminster Highway to Highway 99)	Separated bi-directional bikeway.	1.8	22.6
1999	Garden City Bicycle Route (Williams Road to Granville Avenue)	Between Francis Road and Williams Road - Designated bicycle lane for northbound traffic and a separate bike path for southbound traffic. Between Francis Road and Granville Avenue - Shared roadway.	3.7	26.3

Proposed cycling network additions include:

- *Westminster Highway Bicycle Route (Garden City Road to No. 7 Road)* - The City has applied to the CNP for funding to provide designated bicycle lanes in both directions on Westminster Highway between Garden City Road and No. 6 Road and a separate bi-directional bikeway between No. 6 Road and No. 7 Road. Extension of the bikeway from No. 7 Road to No. 8 Road is contemplated as a separate future project.
- *Gilbert Road Bicycle Route (Granville Avenue to Dinsmore Bridge)* - The City will be applying to TransLink for funding of designated bicycle routes in both directions on Gilbert Road between Granville Avenue and the Dinsmore Bridge.

1.2 Traffic Safety Brochure (2nd Edition) – Insert on Bicycle Safety Tips

The first edition of the "Traffic Safety around Schools and Playgrounds" brochure was distributed to all Richmond elementary and secondary schools and community centres in September, 1999. In response to overwhelming positive feedback and agency requests for a refined version, a second edition of the brochure was produced in September, 2000 which includes a new separate one-page insert on bicycle safety. The insert outlines six safety tips on bicycle usage, particularly on roadways. The Committee provided helpful input and feedback on the content and design of the insert. The second edition of the brochure, printed in both English and Chinese versions, will be distributed in early 2001.

1.3 Bike Week and Bike Month Activities

Each year, Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (BEST) organizes an awareness and education campaign to promote cycling as a sustainable and environmentally responsible transportation alternative. The Committee is an active participant with the City in the various activities held during the campaign, such as bicycle route openings and the commuter challenge.

2. **Future Initiatives**

In light of anticipated limited opportunities for major capital cycling infrastructure projects over the next several years due to diminished Development Cost Charge (DCC) roads funding, the Committee proposes that focus be placed on the implementation of various cycling education and awareness initiatives including the following:

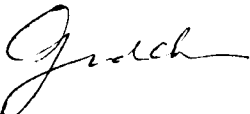
- Chinese language versions of selected existing cycling brochures (e.g., Motor Vehicle Branch, Cycling BC, ICBC, Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Bike Smart for Kids, and the Committee's own brochure);
- Shopping centre information display on cycling in Richmond (e.g., an exhibit that shows the cycling network in Richmond could be held in the Richmond Centre Mall during Bike Month);
- Street name sign replacement program (i.e., as the City is in the process of replacing roadside street name signs at minor street intersections along major roads, the new signs could incorporate bicycle symbols where the major road is a designated bicycle route);
- Enhancement of the City's web pages on cycling or creation of a separate web page on cycling (e.g., the additional information could focus on educating cyclists and motorists on the shared use of the road);
- Promotion of legislated bicycle helmet use; and
- Promotion of improved accessibility by cyclists to Richmond via the new bicycle rack equipped 98 B-Line vehicles.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None at this time. The costs associated with the above proposed initiatives will be estimated when more details are determined over the course of next year's work program jointly by the Richmond Citizens Cycling Committee and staff. Staff will report to Council for further approval on implementing any of these initiatives which have funding implications to the City.

CONCLUSION

Since 1993, the Richmond Citizens Cycling Committee has provided valuable input and advice to the City regarding the planning and implementation of cycling improvements in Richmond. Staff recommend that Council formally recognize the on-going efforts of the Committee and encourage its continued interaction with City staff. Staff are supportive of the Committee's proposed cycling education and awareness initiatives for 2001 and recommend that they be endorsed by Council.



for Victor Wei, P. Eng.
Senior Transportation Engineer
(on behalf of the Richmond Citizens Cycling Committee)

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