



To: Public Works and Transportation Committee **Date:** January 18, 2006
From: Victor Wei, P. Eng.
Acting Director, Transportation **File:** 1087-18-01
Re: **SUBMISSION TO PROVINCIAL 2006/07 CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM – WESTMINSTER HIGHWAY BIKE ROUTE (NO. 8 ROAD TO NELSON ROAD)**

Staff Recommendation

1. That the submission for 50/50 cost-sharing to the Province’s 2006/07 *Cycling Infrastructure Partnership Program* to improve the Westminster Highway bicycle route from No. 8 Road to Nelson Road, as described in the attached report, be endorsed.
2. That should the above application be successful, staff be authorized to execute the provincial cost-share agreement.

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

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY			
ROUTED TO:		CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Engineering – Design & Construction	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>for Tracy</i>
Budgets	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	
Parks	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES	NO	REVIEWED BY CAO
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>DW</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

The Province of BC's *Cycling Infrastructure Partnership Program* (CIPP) is a cost-share program between the province and municipal and regional governments to build new transportation cycling routes to promote cycling as a means of reducing traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. Candidate projects must improve cycling facilities for utilitarian trips and be part of a Council-approved Bicycle Plan. Richmond City Council adopted the *Richmond On-Street Cycling Network Plan* in 1995.

This report recommends that the project to provide bike lanes on the Westminster Highway Bicycle Route between No. 8 Road and Nelson Road be submitted by the City for cost-share funding under the Province's 2006/07 *Cycling Infrastructure Partnership Program*.

Analysis

1. Project Submission for 2006/07 Cycling Infrastructure Partnership Program

Over the past several years, the selection of cycling projects for implementation under provincial or regional government cost-share programs has been guided by the goal of completing the cycling routes identified in the City's *On-Street Cycling Network Plan*. Accordingly, staff recommend the submission to the Province's 2006/07 CIPP for cost-sharing of the project to construct on-street bike lanes on Westminster Highway between No. 8 Road and Nelson Road, which would complete the provision of cycling facilities on Westminster Highway from Garden City Road east to Nelson Road (**Attachment 1**). The bike lanes on Westminster Highway would be extended from Nelson Road to the Hamilton Interchange as part of the planned phased project to widen Westminster Highway from 2 lanes to 4 lanes between Nelson Road and the Hamilton Interchange.

Based on consultation with the Richmond Community Cycling Committee and site investigations by staff, construction of the bike lanes on the Westminster Highway bike route from No. 8 Road to Nelson Road would comprise the following improvements:

- widening of the existing pavement area;
- modification of pavement markings to create 1.8-m wide bicycle lanes on either side of Westminster Highway; and
- introduction of intermittent "Bike Route" shoulder signs along the new section.

Construction is anticipated to be undertaken in 2006. Per CIPP requirements, the project must be completed by March 31, 2007.

2. Stakeholder Consultation

The Richmond Community Cycling Committee was consulted in the planning of the recommended Westminster Highway bike route project and will provide further feedback on its design as planning progresses. The Committee has also provided a letter of support for the project that will be included with the City's application to the 2006/07 CIPP.

Financial Impact

Under the CIPP, the Province will match municipal or regional contributions to a maximum of \$250,000 per project. The total cost of the Westminster Highway Bicycle Route Project (No. 8 Road to Nelson Road) is estimated at approximately \$293,000. If approved by the Province, the City will receive a maximum of approximately \$146,500 as a cost-share funding grant from the Province's CIPP for the 2006/07 fiscal period.

The City has also submitted the same project for cost-share funding to TransLink's 2006 *Bicycle Infrastructure Capital Cost Sharing Program* (BICCS). If approved, the City will receive up to approximately \$138,000 as a cost-share funding grant (i.e., the maximum amount of the City's block allocation of funding, which is based on the proportion of the city's population relative to the GVRD).

This project will be undertaken only if the City is successful in receiving cost-share grants from both TransLink (via BICCS) and the Province (via CIPP) that total the required grant contribution of approximately \$220,000. The proposed source of funding for the remaining City portion of the project cost (estimated at \$73,000) is the 2006 Bicycle Program (Project No. 40268), which is part of the recently approved 2006 Capital Program.

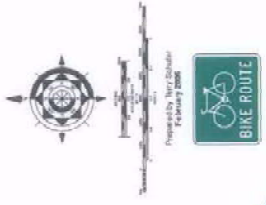
Conclusion

Staff recommend submission of the Westminster Highway Bicycle Route project between No. 8 Road and Nelson Road to the Province's 2006/07 *Cycling Infrastructure Partnership Program* for cost sharing. This project will address a current gap in cycling facilities on the Westminster Highway bicycle route and improve the safety of cyclists in this area.



Joan Caravan
Transportation Planner
(4035)

Proposed Cycling Facility Improvement Westminster Highway Bike Route (No.8 Road to Nelson Road)



City of Richmond On-Street Cycling Network Plan

- Provincial And Federal Highways
- Existing Bicycle Routes
- Existing On-Street Trail
- Proposed Bicycle Routes
- Major Intersections
- Recreational Destinations
- Major Destinations

