



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Public Works and Transportation Committee **Date:** March 5, 2005
From: Victor Wei, P. Eng.
Acting Director, Transportation **File:** 0150-20-ICBC1-01
Re: **ICBC/CITY OF RICHMOND ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM –
NETWORK SCREENING STUDY AND PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR 2005**

Staff Recommendation

That the list of proposed road safety improvement projects potentially eligible for funding contributions from the City/ICBC 2005 *Road Safety Improvement Program*, as described in the attached report, be endorsed.

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

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Engineering	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At the February 23, 2004 regular Council meeting, Council endorsed a number of proposed joint ICBC/City of Richmond road safety improvement projects for 2004. This report summarizes the projects implemented in 2004 with funding from ICBC and presents a list of projects proposed to be implemented with funding contributions from ICBC as part of the 2005 ICBC/City of Richmond *Road Safety Improvement Program* partnership.

Analysis

1. Partnership with ICBC on Road Safety Improvement Program

The City has been in partnership with ICBC in the *Road Safety Improvement Program* since 1994. This partnership is a vital component of the City's traffic safety program as it enables the City not only to undertake more traffic safety enhancements than it could alone, but also to expedite some of these road safety improvement projects.

Each year, a list of potential projects is developed for inclusion in the *Road Safety Improvement Program* based primarily on the results of joint ICBC/City traffic safety studies. Past funding from ICBC has contributed to the implementation of projects such as the completion of the Williams Road Bike Route from No. 1 Road to the west dyke, Blundell Road and No. 2 Road intersection improvements, and the installation and upgrading of pedestrian crosswalks.

Since the City's participation in the *Road Safety Improvement Program* began in 1994, the City's traffic accident rate has steadily decreased. The annual number of reported traffic accidents has fallen from an average of 3,000–4,000 incidents over the 1994 to 1996 period to 1,900–2,200 incidents over the 1997 to 2002 period, which equates to a reduction of approximately 40-50 percent.

2. 2004 ICBC / City of Richmond Road Safety Improvement Projects

The following projects were implemented in 2004 with funding contributions from the 2004 ICBC/City *Road Safety Improvement Program*.

- No. 2 Road / Blundell Road – installation of centre median delineators to prevent southbound left turns from No. 2 Road to the shopping mall.
- Westminster Highway – installation of a concrete centre median from Cooney Road to Buswell Road to prevent left turns.

ICBC funding contributions towards these projects amounted to \$9,400 with the balance funded from the approved 2004 Major Capital Works Program.

3. 2004 Network Screening Study for Richmond

While ICBC has been funding its *Road Safety Improvement Program* since 1990 and many sites have experienced reductions in collisions following the implementation of safety improvements sponsored by ICBC, high collision frequencies persist at some locations. Therefore, a procedure known as network screening was undertaken to identify those intersections, previously improved or not, that can still benefit from road safety improvements. The study examined arterial roads and their collision frequencies over the January 2001 to December 2003 period. Based on this process, 11 intersections were selected as strong candidates for road safety investments. Of these 11 intersections, detailed traffic operational and safety reviews were undertaken for six intersections in 2004 and four of these are part of the proposed projects for the 2005 *Road Safety Improvement Program*. The remaining intersections will be reviewed and considered in future years of the *Road Safety Improvement Program*.

4. Proposed 2005 ICBC / City of Richmond Road Safety Improvement Projects

In addition to the four intersections identified for road safety improvements via the 2004 Network Screening Study, the City also proposes to submit two projects that comprise traffic signal upgrades at various locations in the city as well as a project to improve the Westminster Highway/No. 4 Road intersection, which was identified in previous safety reviews conducted by ICBC. The table below identifies the projects proposed for submission to the 2005 *Road Safety Improvement Program* for funding contribution from ICBC.

Location	Improvement
Alderbridge Way & Garden City Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised pavement markings, merge lane sign & merge arrows • "No Left Turn" sign for westbound exit leg
Alderbridge Way & Shell Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North-south guiding line pavement markings • Road sign on median indicating STOP line location
No. 5 Road & Westminster Hwy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend solid line of merge lane & relocate merge arrows • Add oversized "Yield" signs • Provide additional "Signal Ahead" sign
No. 5 Road & Steveston Hwy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repave east-west guiding line & crosswalk pavement markings • Provide "Merge" sign • Add solid line & merge arrows to declare merge lane • Add hatched pavement markings
Various Locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic signal backboard upgrades to improve visibility • Upgrade signals to advanced vehicle volume/density operation
Westminster Hwy. & No. 4 Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realignment of eastbound left turn bay

ICBC's potential funding contribution to these projects is determined by historical traffic accident rates at these locations and the estimated reduction in ICBC claim costs resulting from the proposed traffic safety improvements. The ICBC investment criteria used will be an investment goal of a 3:1 return over a two-year period. Staff anticipate that ICBC will complete its evaluation of the submissions and provide a decision on funding grants before June 2005.

Financial Impact

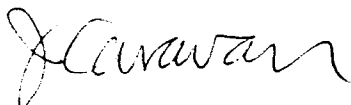
The estimated portion of the costs to be funded by the City and the proposed funding sources for the projects are shown in the table below.

Location	Estimated Total Cost	Estimated ICBC Grant	Estimated City Cost	Proposed Source of City Funding
Alderbridge Way & Garden City Road	\$3,500	\$3,500	-	2005 Minor Capital Program
Alderbridge Way & Shell Rd	\$3,500	\$3,500	-	2005 Minor Capital Program
No. 5 Rd & Westminster Hwy	\$2,500	\$2,200	\$300	2005 Minor Capital Program
No. 5 Road & Steveston Hwy	\$4,000	\$4,000	-	2005 Minor Capital Program
Various Locations: Traffic Signal Upgrades	\$280,000	\$135,000	\$145,000	2005 Major Capital Program
Westminster Hwy & No. 4 Rd	\$127,000	\$17,000	\$110,000*	2005 Major Capital Program
Total	\$420,500	\$165,200	\$255,300	

* - Staff also anticipate receiving a grant from TransLink towards this project.

Conclusion

ICBC is a significant partner working with the City to promote traffic safety in Richmond. The traffic safety initiatives jointly implemented by ICBC and the City, including various road and traffic management enhancements, educational efforts and enforcement measures, have resulted in safer streets for all road users in the City. Staff therefore recommend that Council endorse the various road safety improvements proposed for the 2005 joint ICBC/ City Road Safety Improvement Program.



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