



**CITY OF RICHMOND**

**REPORT TO COMMITTEE**

**TO:** Public Works and Transportation Committee

**DATE:** July 3, 2003

**FROM:** Steve Ono, P.Eng.  
Director, Engineering

**FILE:** 6340-20

**RE:** No. 3 Road Undergrounding – 2003

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That Staff postpone the undergrounding project along No. 3 Road between Road and Sea Island Way and coordinate it with the RAV Project; and
- 2) That the 2002 capital funds allocated for undergrounding of foreign utilities along No. 3 Road from Cambie Road to Sea Island Way in the amount of \$2,646,000 be reallocated to fund undergrounding of foreign utilities along Westminster Highway from Minoru Boulevard to Gilbert Road and on Granville Avenue from No. 3 Road to St. Alban's Road/Cooney Road.

*for*

Steve Ono, P.Eng.  
Director, Engineering

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<b>ROUTED TO:</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>
Budget .....	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	

## STAFF REPORT

### ORIGIN

The No. 3 Road Foreign Utility Infrastructure Undergrounding Strategy commenced in 1997 when BC Hydro partnered with the City to underground overhead utility poles and wires along No. 3 Road between Westminster Highway and Sea Island Way. BC Hydro contributed one third of the total estimated undergrounding cost over the three year period.

In 2000, undergrounding along No. 3 Road from Westminster Highway to Cambie Road was completed in conjunction with the 98 B Line project.

In 2002, the City budgeted \$2,646,000 in the Capital Program to underground the final section on No. 3 Road between Cambie Road and Sea Island Way. In 2003, BC Hydro confirmed their contribution to pay for one third of the cost for this project.

### ANALYSIS

The Richmond Airport Vancouver (RAV) Project has been proposed for No. 3 Road between Granville Avenue and Sea Island Way with a significant amount of roadway construction. To avoid duplication of disruption to businesses, traffic congestion and relocation of existing services, staff recommends postponing the undergrounding project along No. 3 Road between Cambie Road and Sea Island Way until the RAV Project proceeds. This will allow for coordination and construction of work in a timely and more economical manner.

Unfortunately, the BC Hydro funding deadline is for March 31, 2004 and the RAV project construction will not commence prior to this date. As such, BC Hydro has approved transferring the funds dedicated for the No. 3 Road undergrounding project in 2003 to the following two undergrounding projects which were originally scheduled for construction in 2004 and 2006 in the City's 5 Year Capital Program.

1. Westminster Highway – Minoru Boulevard to Gilbert Road
2. Granville Avenue – No. 3 Road to St. Alban's Road/Cooney Road

These two projects could be tendered and commence construction prior to the end of March 2004.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated combined cost to the City for the Granville Avenue and Westminster Highway undergrounding projects is within the approved 2002 capital program budget of \$2,646,000 for No. 3 Road – Cambie Road to Sea Island Way. Therefore, no financial impact is expected.

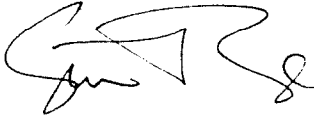
### CONCLUSION

As a result of the RAV Project, Staff recommends postponing the final section of the No. 3 Road Undergrounding project to be constructed in conjunction with the RAV Project. In addition, due to BC Hydro's offer to reallocate their approved funds from the No. 3 Road Project to the Granville Avenue and Westminster Highway Undergrounding Projects, Staff recommends that

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the City reallocate the budgeted \$2,646,000 in the Capital Program to underground Westminster Highway – Minoru Boulevard to Gilbert Road and Granville Avenue – No. 3 Road to St. Alban's Road/Cooney Road.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Siu Tse', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Siu Tse, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
Manager, Engineering Planning  
(4075)

ST:rg