



City of Richmond


Report to Committee

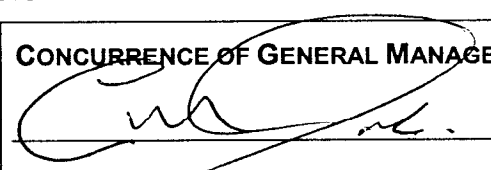
To Public Works & Transportation - Nov 19, 20

To: Public Works and Transportation Committee **Date:** October 30, 2003
From: Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation **File:** 6360-12-01
Re: **PACEMORE AVENUE WALKWAY – FINAL SURVEY RESULTS**

Staff Recommendation

1. That the proposed pedestrian walkway along Pacemore Avenue be cancelled based on the results of the latest survey of the residents in the area.
2. That special advisory signage be installed to encourage drivers to respect the residential nature of the area and to enhance pedestrian safety.


for Gordon Chan, P. Eng.
Director, Transportation
(4021)

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| ROUTED TO: | CONCURRENCE | CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER |
| Engineering – Design & Construction | Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> |  |

Staff Report

Origin

The proposed pedestrian walkway on Pacemore Avenue (No. 1 Road to Elsmore Road) has been an ongoing project since May 2001 when area residents contacted the City regarding the lack of pedestrian facilities for school children. Since Council's original approval of the proposed walkway on March 11, 2002, staff have undertaken a number of consultation efforts with area residents. A final consultation was conducted on September 11, 2003 on-site with residents and staff from Transportation, Public Works and Parks. This meeting was followed up with a mail-in survey.

This report presents the results of the latest survey of area residents and, based on the results of the survey, recommends that the proposed walkway be cancelled.

Analysis

1. Chronology of Events

- March 2002 – Staff report to Council proposes a walkway along Pacemore Avenue area to address the lack of pedestrian facilities. The report indicated that the year-round average traffic speeds on Pacemore Avenue are below the posted speed limit. On March 2002 Council approved the construction of an asphalt walkway on the south side of Pacemore Avenue to enhance pedestrian safety and directed staff to advise area residents of the City's intention to proceed with the project and to gain public feedback on the design details.
- May 2002 – The consultation process revealed that not all local residents were in support of an asphalt walkway and that many were interested in upgrading the road to full City standard with curb and concrete sidewalk. A further staff report was submitted to Council summarizing the survey results and recommended that the construction of the walkway be deferred and that area residents be given the opportunity to pursue a Local Improvement Program (LIP) process to upgrade the road to full City standard.
- January 2003 – The City was advised by the area resident petitioning for the full road upgrade that she was not successful in obtaining sufficient signatures (at least two-thirds of owners) to proceed with the LIP process. Staff resumed work on the project and prepared alternative revised designs of the walkway for further consultation with the residents.
- September 2003 – Staff from Transportation, Public Works and Parks met with area residents on-site to seek further input on this issue. Subsequent to the on-site meeting, a second survey was distributed to residents on both sides of Pacemore Avenue requesting their feedback on the two alternative walkway designs (i.e., adjacent to the roadway or separated from the roadway). Area residents were also given the option of not having a walkway.

2. Results of the Second Survey of Area Residents

The results of the last survey indicated that 65 percent of the respondents selected the option of not having a walkway, with the remainder of the responses split between the two proposed designs for the walkway. The residents on the south side of Pacemore Avenue where the

walkway was proposed represented the majority of those residents who did not want the walkway constructed.

3. Proposed Actions

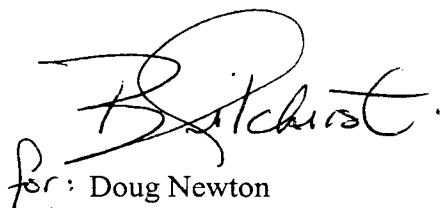
Given the lack of support among most of the residents on the south side of Pacemore Avenue for the walkway, staff recommend that the project be cancelled and, as an alternative, special signage be installed at selected locations on Pacemore Avenue (see Attachment 1) advising motorists to respect the neighbourhood and drive appropriately. In addition, information on the City LIP process will be provided to those residents who have indicated an interest in the program during the September 2003 on-site meeting.

Financial Impact

The installation of the advisory signage can be funded from the 2003 Neighbourhood Traffic Safety Program at an estimated cost of \$400. The funding for the Pacemore Avenue walkway project, in the amount of \$75,000 would be re-allocated to enhance the scope of other high priority approved road improvement projects for 2003.

Conclusion

Based on feedback from area residents, it is recommended that the Pacemore Avenue walkway project not proceed. As an alternative, special advisory signs will be installed at a number of locations to encourage drivers to respect the residential nature of the area. The residents of Pacemore Avenue who have indicated an interest in the LIP process will receive an information package from the City to allow them to pursue the construction of the full road standard along the frontages of their homes.



for: Doug Newton
Traffic Technician
(4032)

DN:lce

RESPECT RESIDENTIAL AREA

