



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Public Works and Transportation Committee
From: Lloyd Bie, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation
Date: June 24, 2025
File: 10-6460-01/2025-Vol
01
Re: ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Program Update

Staff Recommendations

1. That the proposed road safety improvement projects, as described in Attachment 1 of the staff report titled "ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Program Update," dated June 24, 2025, from the Director, Transportation, be endorsed for submission to the ICBC 2025 Road Improvement Program for consideration of cost-share funding; and
2. That should the above applications be successful, the Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager, Engineering and Public Works, be authorized to execute the cost-share agreements on behalf of the City, and that the Consolidated 5 Year Financial Plan (2025-2029) be amended accordingly.

for
Lloyd Bie, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation
(604-276-4131)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

At the May 27, 2024, Council meeting, Council endorsed a number of projects to be submitted to ICBC for funding through the 2024 ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Program. This report outlines the projects implemented in 2024 with funding from ICBC and presents a list of projects proposed to be included in the City's submission to ICBC for cost-share funding as part of the 2025 ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Program partnership.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Strategy #3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.

3.2 Leverage strategic partnerships and community-based approaches for comprehensive safety services.

3.4 Ensure civic infrastructure, assets and resources are effectively maintained and continue to meet the needs of the community as it grows.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Strategy #4 Responsible Financial Management and Governance:

Responsible financial management and efficient use of public resources to meet the needs of the community.

4.1 Ensure effective financial planning to support a sustainable future for the City.

4.4 Work with all levels of governments for grant and funding opportunities.

Analysis

ICBC Road Improvement Program

ICBC initiated the Road Improvement Program in 1990 to help fund the implementation of road safety upgrades to reduce the frequency and/or severity of crashes at high-risk locations, reduce claims costs and reduce the potential for crashes. The City has partnered with ICBC in the Road Improvement Program since 1994.

This partnership enables the City to undertake more traffic safety enhancements with available funding and helps expedite the delivery of road safety improvement projects. Each year, a list of Council-approved road improvement projects eligible for funding through the Road Improvement Program is compiled for submission to ICBC.

Road Improvement Program Highlights

Over the past five years, ICBC has awarded over \$1.4 million towards road improvement projects within Richmond. These contributions helped facilitate the following upgrades:

- Intersection Safety Improvements: In 2019, the City completed a study to identify the most collision-prone intersections within the City. The study recommended improvements including the removal of channelized right-turn islands. Over the past five years, ICBC's Road Improvement Program has awarded approximately \$450,000 for safety improvements at four intersections:
 - Cambie Road and No. 5 Road: addition of left-turn bays in all directions;
 - Westminster Highway and No. 5 Road: removal of channelized right-turn island;
 - Westminster Highway and Cooney Road: removal of channelized right-turn island; and
 - Garden City Road and Lansdowne Road: removal of channelized right-turn island.

Figure 1 below shows upgrades to the Cambie Road and No. 5 Road intersection that received a grant through the 2024 ICBC Road Improvement Program.

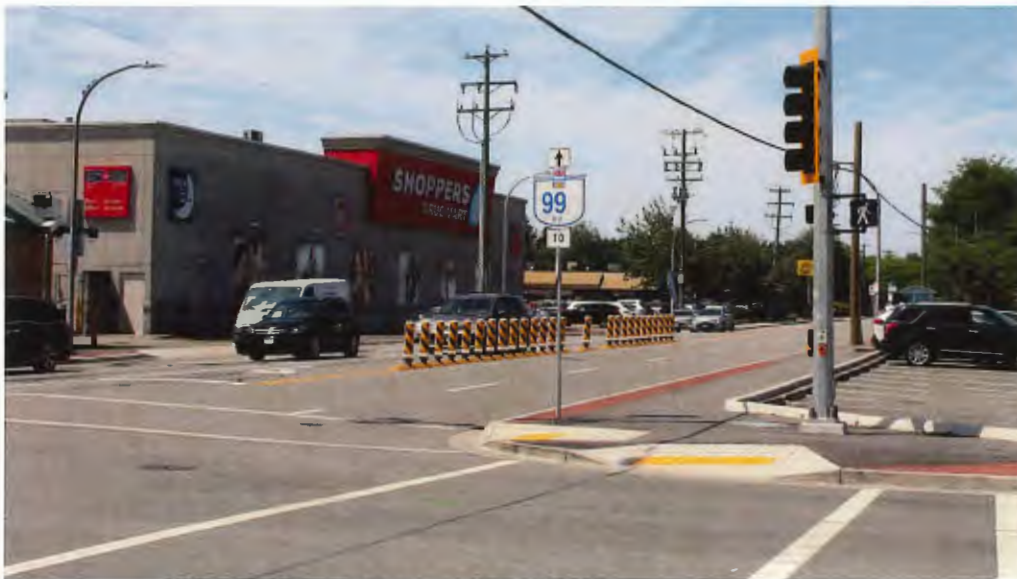


Figure 1: Intersection Upgrades at Cambie Road and No. 5 Road

- LED Street Name Signs: LED street name signs enhance visibility and legibility for drivers. Over the past five years, ICBC's Road Improvement Program has awarded approximately \$150,000 to the installation of overhead LED street name signs at 62 intersections. At the end of the 2025 program, all intersections with traffic signals will be equipped with LED street name signs.
- Uninterruptible Power Supply System (UPS): UPS systems at signalized intersections provide continuous power supply to maintain traffic signal operations during power outages. Over the past five years, the Road Improvement Program has awarded approximately \$120,000 to the installation of UPS systems at 52 intersections. Upon completion of the 2025 program, 147 of the City's 185 intersections with traffic signals will be equipped with a UPS system. At the current annual funding level, staff anticipate that the remaining signalized intersections will be equipped with a UPS system over the next four years.

- Special Crosswalk Program: The City's Special Crosswalk Program upgrades existing crosswalks with pedestrian-activated flashing lights that alert motorists of crossing pedestrians. Over the past five years, the Road Improvement Program has awarded approximately \$40,000 towards the installation of 12 special crosswalks. By the end of the 2025 program, all major crosswalks on arterial roads will be upgraded to be equipped with pedestrian-activated flashing lights.

2024 ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Projects

The City was awarded \$445,500 through the 2024 ICBC Road Improvement Program for the implementation of seven bundles of road improvement projects, as identified in Attachment 2. Projects include traffic safety upgrades at three major intersections, installation of special crosswalks, traffic video cameras, overhead LED street name signs and uninterruptible power supply (UPS) at intersections.

Proposed 2025 ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Projects

Nine bundles of projects are proposed to be included in the City's submission to ICBC for the 2025 Road Improvement Program (Attachment 1). Projects include safety upgrades at four collision-prone intersections, installation of new traffic signals, special crosswalks, traffic video cameras, overhead LED street name signs, uninterruptible power supply for traffic signals, pedestrian pathways and bicycle lane protection.

ICBC Funding Contribution

ICBC's funding contribution towards each project will be determined through review of historical crash rates at these locations, the estimated reduction in ICBC claim costs resulting from the proposed improvements, project eligibility in relation to the funding guidelines and the program's funding availability. The outcome of ICBC's review of all submitted projects will be reported back as part of the 2025 update of the ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Program.

Should a project be approved for funding by ICBC, the City will be required to enter into a funding agreement with ICBC. The agreement is provided by ICBC and generally includes an indemnity in favour of ICBC. Staff recommend that the Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager, Engineering and Public Works, be authorized to execute any such funding agreements on behalf of the City.

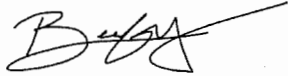
Financial Impact

The total estimated cost of all the projects identified in Attachment 1 is \$10,609,750. All projects are fully funded through Council-approved Capital Budgets. Should any submitted projects receive funding from ICBC exceeding the original budgeted external contribution, staff recommend that the excess external grants be used to reduce the previous approved City funding sources, and that the Consolidated 5 Year Financial Plan (2025-2029) be amended accordingly.

Conclusion

ICBC is a long-time partner working with the City to promote traffic safety in Richmond. The traffic safety initiatives jointly implemented by ICBC and the City have resulted in safer streets for all road users in Richmond.

Staff recommend that Council endorse the various local road safety improvement projects for submission to the 2025 joint ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Program.



Beata Ng, P.Eng.
Manager, Transportation Development and Design
(604-247-4627)

BN:kw

Att. 1: Proposed 2025 City-ICBC Road Improvement Program Projects

Att. 2: 2024 Road Improvement Program Projects Receiving ICBC Funding

Proposed 2025 City-ICBC Road Improvement Program Projects

Proposed 2025 ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Program Projects	Estimated Total Cost
Construction of Intersection Safety Improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambie Rd & No. 4 Rd • Westminster Hwy & No. 2 Rd • Granville Ave & Cooney Rd • St Edwards Rd & Cambie Rd 	\$6,800,000
Installation of Special Crosswalks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ash St & Granville Ave • Francis Rd & Newmond Rd • Heather St & Granville Ave 	\$200,000
Installation or Modification of Traffic Signals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Canadian Way & Beckwith Rd. • No. 5 Rd & Granville Ave • Cambie Rd & Brown Rd • Bridgeport Rd & Sexsmith Rd – Pedestrian Signal • Garden City Rd & Odlin Rd – Addition of Northbound Left-Turn Arrow • Railway Ave & Steveston Hwy – Addition of Eastbound & Westbound Left-Turn Arrows 	\$1,610,000
Installation of Traffic Video Cameras: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell Rd and Cambie Rd • Garden City Rd & Cook Rd • Garden City Rd & Westminster Hwy • Other locations to be determined⁽²⁾ 	\$90,000
Installation of Overhead LED Street Name Signs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. 5 Rd. & Riverside Way • No. 5 Rd. & Blundell Rd. • No. 5 Rd. & Cambie Rd. • Jacombs Rd. & Cambie Rd. • Viking Way & Cambie Rd. • No. 6 Rd. & Commerce Pkwy. • No. 6 Rd. & Mayfield Pl. • No. 6 Rd. & Cambie Rd. • No. 6 Rd. & Bridgeport Rd. • No. 8 Rd. & Blundell Rd. • No. 8 Rd. & Westminster Hwy. • Old Westminster Hwy. & Westminster Hwy. – 1 sign • Westminster Hwy. & McLean Ave. 	\$195,000
Traffic Calming Measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dyke Road – 1 raised crosswalk, 2 speed cushions • Other locations pending results of public consultation and traffic studies⁽¹⁾ 	\$14,750

Proposed 2025 ICBC-City of Richmond Road Improvement Program Projects	Estimated Total Cost
Installation of UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buswell St. & Granville Ave. • No. 3 Rd & Blundell Rd • No. 4 Rd. & Williams Rd. • No. 4 Rd. & Granville Ave. • No. 4 Rd. & Odlin Rd. • St. Edwards Rd. & Bridgeport Rd. • Simpson Rd. & Bridgeport Rd. • Alderbridge Way & Elmbridge Way • Hollybridge Way & Elmbridge Way • Garden City Rd. & Odlin Cr. • No. 3 Rd & Saba Rd • Cooney Rd.& Westminster Hwy. 	\$300,000
Construction of Pedestrian Pathway: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Edwards Drive (350m east of Cambie Rd-Bird Rd) • Westminster Hwy (McLean Park) 	\$800,000
Addition of Protected Bike Lanes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexsmith Rd - Brown Rd Bike Route 	\$600,000
Total	\$10,609,750

⁽¹⁾ Implementation is subject to consultation with and support from affected residents.

⁽²⁾ Additional locations may be identified for submission to ICBC prior to its annual program deadline.

2024 Road Improvement Program Projects Receiving ICBC Funding

Project Description	Location	ICBC Contribution	Estimated Total Cost ⁽¹⁾
Intersection Safety Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cambie Rd & No. 5 Rd Westminster Hwy & No. 5 Rd Westminster Hwy & Cooney Rd 	\$328,000	\$4,610,000
Installation of Special Crosswalk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. 2 Rd & Kittiwake Dr Williams Rd & Elkmond Rd No. 4 Rd & Dennis Pl 	\$10,500	\$228,000
Installation of UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) at Intersections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. 1 Rd & Williams Rd No. 1 Rd & Osmond Rd No. 1 Rd & Blundell Rd Garden City Rd & Williams Rd Garden City Rd & Francis Rd Railway Ave & Moncton St Garden City Rd & Lansdowne Rd No. 8 Rd & Westminster Hwy No. 2 Rd & Blundell Centre Alderbridge Way & Westminster Hwy 	\$25,000	\$200,000
Installation of Traffic Video Cameras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. 4 Rd & Francis Rd No. 4 Rd & Blundell Rd No. 4 Rd & Granville Ave 	\$23,000	\$90,000
Installation of Overhead LED Street Name Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Canadian Way & River Rd No. 4 Rd & Williams Rd. No. 4 Rd & Granville Ave No. 4 Rd & Alderbridge Way No. 4 Rd & Odlin Rd No. 4 Rd & Cambie Rd No. 4 Rd & Blundell Rd Aberdeen Mall & Cambie Rd Hazelbridge Way & Cambie Rd Sexsmith Rd & Cambie Rd Gilbert Rd & Granville Ave 	\$33,000	\$180,000
Traffic Calming: Raised Crosswalks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge Elementary School McKinney Elementary School Choice School 	\$3,000	\$30,000
Installation of Stop-signs via Stop-sign Infill Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91 locations city-wide 	\$23,000	\$45,500
Total		\$445,500	\$5,383,500

⁽¹⁾ Actual total project costs are being compiled and are unavailable at the time of this report.