



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** General Purposes Committee **Date:** July 24, 2020  
**From:** Lloyd Bie, P.Eng.  
 Director, Transportation **File:** 01-0140-20-TCAN1-06/2020-Vol 01  
**Re:** **Funding Agreement with Transport Canada Rail Safety Improvement Program for Williams Road-Shell Road Intersection Upgrade**

### Staff Recommendation

1. That the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Planning and Development, be authorized to execute the Rail Safety Improvement Program funding agreement with Transport Canada for the Williams Road-Shell Road intersection; and
2. That the Revised Consolidated 5 Year Financial Plan (2020-2024) be amended accordingly.

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

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

## Staff Report

### Origin

An existing Council-approved capital project includes the signalization of the Williams Road-Shell Road intersection (both east and west Shell Road). As there is an active railway operating through the intersection, the two new traffic signals will require interconnection with the rail warning system. In addition, the existing rail warning system comprised of bells and flashing lights will require an upgrade to provide gates.

Transport Canada's Rail Safety Improvement Program (the Program) is a cost-share program to support the implementation of measures to improve public safety along railway lines. As the City's application to the Program for funding support for the Williams Road-Shell Road intersection signalization project was successful, this report seeks Council authorization to execute the funding agreement.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #1 A Safe and Resilient City:

*Enhance and protect the safety and well-being of Richmond.*

*1.2 Future-proof and maintain city infrastructure to keep the community safe.*

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #5 Sound Financial Management:

*Accountable, transparent, and responsible financial management that supports the needs of the community into the future.*

*5.4 Work cooperatively and respectfully with all levels of government and stakeholders while advocating for the best interests of Richmond.*

### Analysis

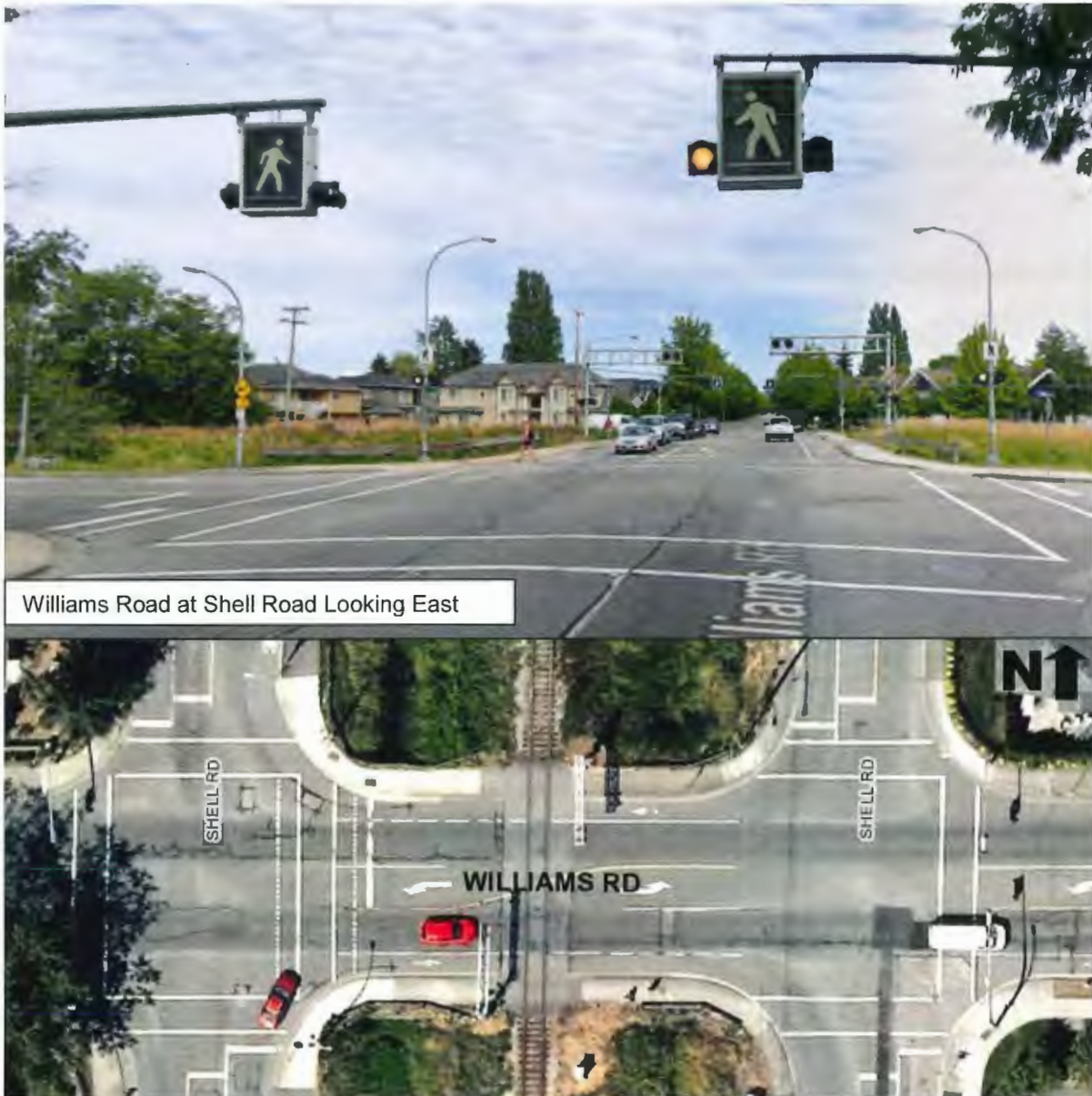
#### Williams Road-Shell Road Intersection

Currently, the east and west intersections are controlled by stop signs for traffic on Shell Road (Figure 1). There are special crosswalks with pedestrian-actuated overhead amber flashing lights at both locations. The off-street Shell Road Trail crosses Williams Road adjacent to the west intersection and an active rail line operates between the two intersections.

The project comprises the full signalization of both intersections and the addition of gates at the railway crossing to improve the safety of all road users. The traffic signal works include interconnection to the railway warning system to ensure there is sufficient pre-emption time for vehicles to clear the grade crossing before the arrival of railway equipment at the crossing and prevent the through movement of traffic towards the crossing.

This site is within the City's designated Environmentally Sensitive Area and riparian management zone. If endorsed, a Qualified Environmental Professional will be hired to obtain applicable environmental permits and prepare an Environmental Management Plan to mitigate

potential impacts to these areas during construction. Detailed design of the project has been completed and construction is anticipated to begin in Q1 2021 and be completed in Q1 2022.



Williams Road at Shell Road Looking East

Figure 1: Existing Conditions at Williams Road-Shell Road

Proposed Funding

Table 1 below summarizes the estimated project cost, and the internal and external funding sources. With the successful application, the City’s funding will be reduced from the total estimated project cost of \$700,000 to \$152,800.

Table 1: Funding for Williams Road-Shell Road Intersection Improvements

Project & Scope	City Portion & Funding Source	Transport Canada Funding <sup>(1)</sup>	Est. Total Project Cost
Williams Road-Shell Road Intersection Improvements	CT00012 (Roads DCC) Traffic Signal Program \$152,800	\$547,200	\$700,000

(1) The amount shown represents the funding contribution to be received from the external agency based on the City's cost estimate for the project. The actual invoiced amount follows project completion and is based on incurred costs.

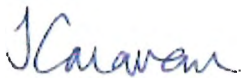
The City will enter into a funding agreement with the Government of Canada. The agreement is a standard form agreement provided by senior levels of government and includes an indemnity and release in favour of the Government of Canada. Staff recommend that the Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager, Planning and Development be authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the City.

**Financial Impact**

The City's estimated cost for this location will be reduced from \$700,000 to \$152,800.

**Conclusion**

The City's successful application to Transport Canada's Rail Safety Improvement Program will support the implementation of road and rail safety measures at Williams Road-Shell Road. The coordinated signalization of the east and west intersections and the upgrade of the road-rail warning system to include gates will improve community safety.



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JC:lce