



To: General Purposes Committee **Date:** August 12, 2013
From: John Irving, P.Eng. MPA **File:** 10-6340-20-
P.11203/Vol 01
 Director, Engineering
Re: **Westminster Highway and Nelson Road Widening APGCI Funding Agreement
Request for Extension**

Staff Recommendation

That a letter be sent to Transport Canada requesting an extension to the Canada-Richmond Asia Gateway and Corridor Initiative Transportation Infrastructure Fund Agreement for Roadway Improvement Projects.

John Irving, P.Eng. MPA
 Director, Engineering
 (604-276-4140)

REPORT CONCURRENCE			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
REVIEWED BY DIRECTORS	INITIALS: DW	REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS:
		yes	

Staff Report

Origin

The Westminster Highway / Nelson Road widening project is partly funded through a contribution agreement with Transport Canada (the Canada-Richmond Asia Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative Transportation Infrastructure Fund Agreement for Roadway Improvement Projects 2011-12 / 2013-14). This agreement was finalized September 8, 2011. The current grant funding deadline is March 31, 2014.

There are poor soils in this area of Richmond, and the placement of preload sand was required prior to road construction. To place the preload, some property acquisition was required. Once the contribution agreement was finalized, staff proceeded with the property acquisition and design works for the project.

Based on the current rate of preload settlement, completion of the project is expected in late 2015.

In October 2012, staff initiated discussions with Transport Canada regarding an extension to the agreement. In order to expedite any extension approval, Transport Canada have asked that a formal extension request under the Mayor's signature be provided.

TransLink is also providing funding for the project. Once an extension is approved by Transport Canada, staff will seek an extension from TransLink to synchronize the end dates of these agreements. Approval from TransLink will likely be granted if the Transport Canada extension is approved.

Financial Impact

None, provided that the extension requests are approved by Transport Canada and TransLink.

Conclusion

The completion of the Westminster Highway / Nelson Road widening project will help alleviate traffic congestion in this area of Richmond. Obtaining an extension to the federal funding agreement will allow the full scope of the project to proceed.

 FOR

Milton Chan, P.Eng.
Manager, Engineering Design & Construction
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MC: mc