



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Public Works and Transportation Committee **Date:** October 23, 2023
From: Lloyd Bie, P.Eng.
 Director, Transportation **File:** 10-6500-00/Vol 01
Re: **Application to 2023/24 BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program**

Staff Recommendation

1. That the submission for cost-sharing to the 2023/24 BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program as described in the staff report titled "Application to 2023/24 BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program" dated October 23, 2023, from the Director, Transportation be endorsed;
2. That the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Planning and Development, be authorized on behalf of the City to execute the funding agreement should the above application be successful; and
3. That should the grant application be successful, the grant amount will be included in the Consolidated 5 Year Financial Plan (2024-2028) accordingly.

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

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

Staff Report

Origin

The Province of BC's Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program (the Program) is a cost-share program between the Province and local governments to support the construction of new facilities to make it easier and safer for people to walk, ride or roll using active transportation modes. This report presents the proposed submission from the City for consideration of cost-share funding under the Program for the 2023/24 funding cycle. Council endorsement is a requirement of the submission.

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.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Strategy #2 Strategic and Well-Planned Growth:

Strategic and sustainable growth that supports long-term community needs and a well-planned and prosperous City.

2.4 Enhance Richmond's robust transportation network by balancing commercial, public, private and active transportation needs.

Analysis

BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program

The call for applications related to the above-noted program commenced on September 1, 2023 with a deadline of October 27, 2023. Staff prepared the application and submitted it to the Province by the deadline.

The City is eligible for 50 per cent cost-share funding up to a maximum of \$500,000. The application that staff are proposing for the Province's annual 2023/24 funding cycle meets the Province's eligibility requirements of:

- City portion of funding secured.
- Design completed or in progress.
- Can be constructed within the required timeline of March 2026.

The proposed project for cost-sharing consideration is described below.

No. 2 Road Multi-Use Pathway, Steveston Highway to Williams Road

This project comprises the construction of a two-way, off-street shared pathway for pedestrians and cyclists on the east side of No. 2 Road between Steveston Highway and Williams Road. Council endorsed this project in the 2021 Capital Plan. The project is currently in the detailed design stage and construction is anticipated to commence in Q1 2024.

The approved total budget for this project is \$2.4 million. The City has secured up to approximately \$1,500,000 in grant funding from TransLink for this project with the remaining \$900,000 to be funded by the City. For cost-share projects with TransLink, a minimum City contribution of 25 per cent is required. Should the City’s Program application be successful at achieving the maximum provincial contribution amount of \$500,000, the City’s share of funding will be reduced from \$900,000 to \$600,000 for project. TransLink’s share of the project will also be reduced to approximately \$1,300,000.

Project Funding

Table 1 summarizes the estimated cost-share breakdown of the No. 2 Road Multi-Use Pathway project should the City’s grant application to the Province be successful.

Table 1: Funding for Application to
2023/24 Potential BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program

Project	City Portion	Secured TransLink Funding	Potential BC Active Transportation Funding Grant	Est. Total Project Cost
No. 2 Road (Steveston Highway to Williams Road): Multi-Use Pathway	\$600,000	\$1,300,000	\$500,000	\$2,400,000

Should the Program application be successful, the City’s portion of the \$2.4 million approved project budget will be reduced from \$900,000 to \$600,000.

Financial Impact

Should the Program applications be successful, the City’s cost for the No. 2 Road Multi-Use Pathway (Steveston Highway to Williams Road) will be reduced from \$900,000 to \$600,000 and be included in the Consolidated 5 Year Financial Plan (2024-2028). Any excess funding would be returned to the original funding sources and be available for use in future capital projects.

Conclusion

The pedestrian and bicycle facility improvement project proposed for submission to the 2023/24 BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program supports numerous goals of the City to improve community mobility, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase physical activity.

October 23, 2023

- 4 -

The potential receipt of external funding will enable the City to reduce its share of the project from \$900,000 to \$600,000.

Sonali Hingorani

Sonali Hingorani, P.Eng.
Manager, Transportation Planning and New Mobility
(604-276-4049)

SH:ck