



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Public Works and Transportation Committee
From: Lloyd Bie, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation
Re: Capstan Station – Construction Update

Date: November 18, 2022
File: 10-6500-01/2022-Vol
01

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “Capstan Station – Construction Update” dated November 18, 2022 from the Director, Transportation be received for information.

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

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Arts, Culture & Heritage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

This report provides an update on the progress of the Capstan Station project.

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

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

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #6 Strategic and Well-Planned Growth:

6.3 Build on transportation and active mobility networks.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #7 A Supported Economic Sector:

7.1 Demonstrate leadership through strategic partnerships, collaborations and exploring innovative and emerging economic practices and technical advancements.

Analysis

Capstan Station will be a new Canada Line station in Richmond, built along No. 3 Road at Capstan Way. It will be located between the existing Bridgeport and Aberdeen stations. Construction of the new station is underway with substantial completion anticipated in summer 2023.

The station is being built to support the growing development in the area and to provide residents and workers with convenient access to the Sky Train network. This project will deliver a safe, efficient, and environmentally sustainable transportation option for the Capstan Village area.

A unique funding strategy developed by the City permits developers of projects within the Capstan Station Bonus Area to be entitled to bonus density in return for making voluntary contributions to the Capstan Station. Through voluntary developer contributions to date, the City has raised approximately \$38 million in the Capstan Station Reserve Fund. Of this amount, \$32.2 million was transferred to TransLink in 2019 to initiate design and construction of the station.

Capstan Station Construction Activities

Construction Progress and Schedule

Station construction commenced in summer 2021 starting with site preparation and utility services work.

The construction of the structural steel at the concourse level of the future station is complete. The current phase of construction involves installing large pieces of steel for framing of the platform level (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Capstan Station Construction

Ongoing construction works include installation of structural steel, platform decking, roofing structure and aluminum cladding for the station. Substantial completion of the station is anticipated in summer 2023. Following construction, TransLink will require an additional four to six months of system line testing. A fully operational station is on schedule to open to the public in early winter of 2023.

Artwork During Construction

TransLink has commissioned artwork incorporated into wraps designed by Richmond-based artists. The art wraps are installed on the construction hoarding fence around Capstan Station (Figure 2).



Figure 2: Artistic Construction Fence Wrap

Construction Activity Impacts

Noise Considerations

The current construction activities include installation of heavy pieces of steel for the station platform requiring use of large cranes. For the safety of the public and workers, the provincial regulator, Technical Safety BC, will not allow trains to operate while large cranes are being used above the Canada Line track.

TransLink's preference is to minimize disruption to Canada Line service by using the large cranes over the guideway at night. To facilitate this schedule, Staff granted TransLink a noise variance permit that commenced for one month in October 2022. During this period, the City received seven complaints from residents about construction noise during the night.

To address the noise related concerns, Staff have required TransLink to implement an improved community outreach and response plan for future night work on the station, including a live 24/7 contact and the ability to address nighttime noise complaints immediately. No additional complaints from residents have been received since these measures were implemented. Additional noise bylaw exemption permits have been issued for November 21 to December 23, 2022. Staff are working closely with TransLink to maximize daytime construction activities to ensure night works are minimized. TransLink has notified nearby residents of this phase of the night works.

Canada Line Impacts

During night work, service on the Canada Line ends early. A bus bridge (extra buses) operates between Bridgeport Station and Richmond–Brighouse Station to provide customers with an alternative service. TransLink is using many forms of communication to advise of service impacts and the City is amplifying their messaging on our social media platforms.

No. 3 Road Traffic Pattern Changes

To support construction, the City is permitting use of the east side of No. 3 Road between Capstan Way and McMyn Way. The traffic management plan for construction work impacts the northbound bike lane, east side sidewalk and the northbound vehicle travel lanes on No. 3 Road. Detours for pedestrians and cyclists have been established and bus service adjusted to accommodate the closures of these facilities on No. 3 Road. Staff have not received any concerns related to the temporary road changes during construction that have been in effect for over a year.

Capstan Station Integration Strategy

In December 2021, the City awarded a contract to Dialog Design for the development of conceptual designs and activation programs for the public space around the future Capstan Station. The project is currently in the site review and data inventory stage.

Staff anticipate bringing forward a report to Council in the first quarter of 2023 with conceptual design options for the integration strategy and details of a public and stakeholder engagement plan to seek feedback.

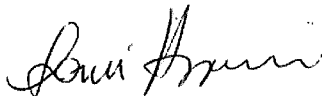
Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Construction work for the Capstan Canada Line Station is progressing and TransLink anticipates the station will be open to the public in fall 2023. Staff are working with TransLink to mitigate noise impact concerns to residents to ensure works are maintained as much as possible during regular construction hours. Staff will continue to meet regularly with TransLink and its contractors throughout the process to coordinate activities and minimize impacts to the public.

Once the station construction is completed, TransLink will restore any impacts to existing infrastructure on No. 3 Rd. Complementary work on conceptual designs and activation strategies are also under development to integrate the station and plaza areas with the surrounding Capstan Village neighborhood.



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