



To: Public Works and Transportation Committee

Date: September 27, 2011

From: John Irving, P.Eng. MPA
Director, Engineering

File: 10-6340-20-
P.11203/Vol 01

Re: Widening of Westminster Highway and Nelson Road
CN Rail Work Permit

Staff Recommendation

That the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Engineering and Public Works be authorized to sign documents as required for a Work Permit from CN Rail for Contract 4230P - Design of Westminster Highway and Nelson Road Widening.

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

Att.

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ROUTED TO:		CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Law		Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>			
REVIEWED BY TAG		YES	NO	REVIEWED BY CAO	YES NO
CVC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

The City has received grant funding to widen portions of Westminster Highway and Nelson Road. Since some of the proposed road widening will occur on the CN Rail Right of Way, the City will require a Work Permit from CN Rail to complete the survey work.

The purpose of this report is to seek authorization for the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Engineering and Public Works to sign the CN Rail Work Permit documents.

Analysis

Westminster Highway is currently two lanes wide between No. 6 Road and McMillan Road. Nelson Road south of Westminster Highway is also two lanes wide. As the amount of industrial activity has increased in the Port Metro Vancouver lands at the south ends of No. 8 Road and Nelson Road, there has been a corresponding increase in the amount of heavy vehicle traffic on Westminster Highway. To address this traffic, the following projects have been identified by the City of Richmond, Province of British Columbia, Port Metro Vancouver, and Translink:

- a) Widening Westminster Highway from Nelson Road to McMillan Road from two lanes to four lanes (this project, approved in the 2011 Capital Budget).
- b) Widening Nelson Road from Blundell Road to Westminster Highway from two lanes to four lanes (this project, approved in the 2011 Capital Budget).

Westminster Highway crosses the CN Rail tracks east of No. 9 Road. To design the new widened roadway, Staff will need to access the CN Rail Right of Way to perform survey services. Staff have contacted CN Rail to seek access to this Right of Way, and CN Rail has provided a Work Permit form that includes an indemnity clause. Due to the indemnity clause, Staff require Council approval to enter into this agreement.

The scope of work to be performed by Staff on the CN Rail Right of Way is of minimal risk and will be limited to survey services. Only handheld equipment will be used, and all survey work will be coordinated with CN Rail.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with this Work Permit.

Conclusion

The widening of Westminster Highway and Nelson Road is required to accommodate the heavy truck traffic generated by the industrial area located at the south end of Nelson Road. It will tie into the new Nelson Road Interchange and help remove the heavy truck traffic from Westminster Highway west of Nelson Road. To complete the design of this project, access to the CN Rail Right of Way is required.



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