



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Public Works and Transportation Committee
From: Lloyd Bie, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation
Date: May 29, 2025
File: 10-6450-17-01/2025-
Vol 01
Re: Commemorative Crosswalk to Honour Veterans

Staff Recommendation

That the commemorative crosswalk design, as described in the staff report titled "Commemorative Crosswalk to Honour Veterans" dated May 29, 2025, from the Director, Transportation, be installed at No. 3 Road and Anderson Road.

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

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Community Social Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Public Works	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Fire Rescue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
RCMP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Arts, Culture and Heritage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

The City received a request from Captain (Retired) Lindy MacKinnon CD, for consideration of a “Lest We Forget” specialty crosswalk on No. 3 Road.

This report responds to the request received from the Veterans.

This report supports Council’s Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond’s interests.

1.2 Advocate for the needs of Richmond in collaboration with partners and stakeholders.

This report supports Council’s Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #6 A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.

6.3 Foster intercultural harmony, community belonging, and social connections.

Analysis

Background

In December 2024, the City received a request for a specialty crosswalk on No. 3 Road to honour and remember Veterans. A response to the request indicated that staff would review viable options and report back to Council with finding and recommendations in June 2025.

A specialty crosswalk is one where the design of the pavement within the crosswalk area provides artistic design features that differ from the standard crosswalk markings. A 2022, Memo to Council, outlined the approval process when considering specialty crosswalk requests. Prior to being brought forward for Council approval, the following review process of applications is undertaken:

- Design complies with technical requirements and national standards for a crosswalk.
- Design does not violate any level of government legislation or policy.
- Design is secular, non-partisan and non-political.
- Engagement with stakeholders.

Review of Other Jurisdictions

Veteran crosswalks have been installed in various communities across Canada. In British Columbia, cities that have implemented Veterans crosswalks include Ladysmith and Langford.

Proposed Location

The recommended location for a Veterans commemorative crosswalk is at the intersection of No. 3 Road and Anderson Road, replacing the existing zebra crosswalk to Richmond City Hall. This location is near the Cenotaph at City Hall and the site of the City's annual Remembrance Day ceremony and reception to honour and commemorate Veterans.

Engagement with Stakeholders

Open House

Staff held an Open House at Richmond City Hall in April 2025 with stakeholders who participated in the Richmond Remembrance Day Ceremony and Reception including the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 291, Army Navy & Air Force Veterans (ANAF), RCMP, Richmond Fire-Rescue, Richmond School District #38, Friends of Richmond Archives, 39 Brigade Service Battalion and the Army Cadets. Potential design options were presented to receive input and feedback. Based on the feedback received at the Open House, crosswalk design options were developed.

Stakeholder Survey

From April 9-28, 2025, stakeholders were surveyed to determine the level of support and obtain feedback on the commemorative crosswalk design options discussed at the Open House.

At the end of the survey period, the Royal Canadian Legion submitted their national crosswalk design as their recommendation for this project (Figure 1). The Legion's design has the maple leaf embossed over white painted stripes. This stylized maple leaf honours the service of all who stood on guard for Canada and is supported by Canadian Heritage for community use.

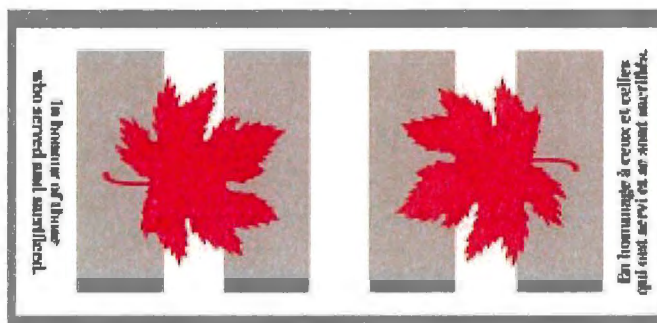


Figure 1: Royal Canadian Legion National Design

Accessibility Considerations

The City is legislated by the Accessible British Columbia Act to identify, prevent and remove barriers for individuals with all types of disabilities in the community, including individuals with sensory and cognitive disabilities. Some specialty crosswalks can result in unintended barriers for individuals with sensory and cognitive disabilities to safely navigate the built environment.

Specialty designs that employ heavy patterns and dark contrasting images/text can be less easily recognizable as a crosswalk and large areas of dark colours may also be perceived as hazards in the ground.

As part of the review process of the Veteran's crosswalk, the Richmond Accessibility Advisory Committee (RAAC) was engaged to share its accessibility perspective on the Legion's design. Through this process, the RAAC identified that the contrast between the maple leaf and the pavement treatment and the text in the walking surface may create unintended barriers for some individuals with sensory and cognitive disabilities. They suggested a number of potential design refinements that could help mitigate these issues. These included adjusting the placement of the maple leaf and reducing the contrast of the text.

Proposed Design

Although various designs were developed and discussed with stakeholders, as the maple leaf is the Legion's recommended design, staff recommend it be used for the commemorative crosswalk at No. 3 Road and Anderson Road (Figure 2).



Figure 2: Conceptual Rendering of Recommended Design

The recommended design reflects discussion with the RAAC. Modifications made to the Legion's design to incorporate accessibility considerations include shifting the maple leaf slightly off centre to provide a clear path of travel and using simple text in dark grey colour to reduce contrast. The RAAC has reviewed the design modifications and expressed support for the proposed final design. The Legion is also supportive of these modifications to increase accessibility of the national design. Staff also met with the Legion and Captain Mackinnon to discuss the Legion's design. A collaborative process resulted in the recommended design including the "Lest We Forget" text.

All stakeholders have been consulted on the recommended design and have provided positive feedback and support for its application at No. 3 Road and Anderson Road.

Financial Impact

The cost to implement the commemorative crosswalk on No. 3 Road and Anderson Road is \$20,000. The scope of work includes removal of the existing crosswalk paint, asphalt repairs, and Methyl Methacrylate (MAA) paint for the crosswalk design. The costs can be accommodated by the approved 2025 Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Program.

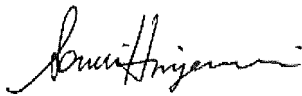
An Annual Operating Budget Impact (OBI) of \$3,200 starting in 2026 is anticipated. The maintenance cost reflects the heavier wear at this location due to the high traffic volumes on No. 3 Road, including frequent buses.

Staff will pursue grant opportunities for this initiative to reduce the City's share of the project.

Conclusion

As part of the community's efforts to honour and remember our Veterans, a collaborative and iterative engagement process was undertaken. Stakeholders, involved with the Remembrance Day Ceremony and Reception were consulted to design a commemorative crosswalk that reflects the values and spirit of the community.

Ultimately, the Royal Canadian Legion recommended their national commemorative crosswalk design. The proposed version also incorporates the "Lest We Forget" text of the original request made by Captain MacKinnon. The commemorative crosswalk at the No. 3 Road and Anderson Road is anticipated to be implemented this summer, in time for Remembrance Day 2025. The project honours Veterans through a commemorative crosswalk near the Cenotaph at No. 3 Road.



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

SH:ck