

THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF WHITE ROCK
15322 BUENA VISTA AVENUE, WHITE ROCK, B.C. V4B 1Y6



February 12, 2014

A MEETING of the **JOHNSTON ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND BEAUTIFICATION TASK FORCE** will be held in the **CITY HALL BOARDROOM** on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014**, at **12:00 p.m.** for the transaction of business listed below.

Tracey Arthur, City Clerk

A G E N D A

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Johnston Road Reconstruction and Beautification Task Force adopt the agenda for the February 19, 2014 meeting as circulated.

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

a) **January 29, 2014**

4. **PROJECT COST ESTIMATES**

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

6. **JOHNSTON ROAD PROJECT WALK**

7. **NEXT MEETING**

To be determined

8. **CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

PRESENT: Councillor Campbell, Chairperson
Councillor Hutchinson
Councillor Lawrence

STAFF: B. Ambardar, Manager, Engineering
D. Bottrill, CAO
L. Sym, Committee and FOI Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Johnston Road Reconstruction and Beautification Task Force adopts the agenda for the January 29, 2014 meeting as circulated.

CARRIED

3. OVERVIEW

- a) **North Bluff Road to Russell Avenue**
- b) **Russell Avenue to Thrift Avenue**

Staff distributed an aerial picture showing Johnston Road from North Bluff Road to Russell Avenue, and from Russell Avenue to Thrift Avenue, displaying the current configuration of lanes and cross-walks. The aerial photo included the preliminary design of new sidewalks which is being completed by Associated Engineering.

Staff outlined current issues with the Johnston Road sidewalk, including raised and uneven pavers, an abundance of street amenities making access via the sidewalk difficult, including trees with roots growing. The Saltaire developers at Thrift Avenue on the east side of Johnston Road rebuilt their sidewalk to match the sidewalk on the west side built by Bosa, leaving the rest of the east side of Johnston Road still to be done.

Johnston Road is an arterial road in Surrey to the north with large truck traffic. The road narrows heading south at North Bluff Road and the traffic light sequencing is slow, causing congestion. The crosswalk south of North Bluff Road was also identified as an issue, as when it is in use it forces cars heading south to back up into the intersection at Johnston Road.

Staff also advised that the left turn lane on Johnston Road heading into Central Plaza will be removed as it is dangerous, it causes northbound back-ups and is not required to access the mall.

Concern was expressed regarding the amount of people who j-walk across Johnston Street. It was discussed to move the current crosswalk in front of the Medical building to the south, extend the current southern median north of Russell Avenue to the current median south of

Johnston Road, thereby closing the mid-block left turn lane and installing a rail fence with foliage on this new median.

It was discussed whether to discontinue the northbound left turn lane on Johnston Road to North Bluff, as the entrance to Semiahmoo Mall is accessed from Martin Street. Staff advised that North Bluff is a TransLink Major Road and should have maximum connectivity from Johnston Road, including a north bound left turn lane.

4. SIDEWALK REVIEW – LEVELTON CONSULTANTS LTD.

The current sidewalks on Johnston Road from North Bluff Road to Thrift Avenue are uneven pavers, and contain many different styles and types of features. The sidewalk will need to be made level, with a 2% slope away from buildings. Pavers will need to be removed, and concrete installed. Typically sidewalks are 5' wide, and members agreed on the importance of maintaining an unobstructed walkway. Staff noted that the proposed design does not anticipate any change in elevation of the road, which will result in linear drains in the sidewalk to collect surface water. Staff noted that the sidewalk could be regraded to drain to the road if the road was lowered at the curb by approximately 150mm, however road works on Johnston are currently not in the five year capital plan.

Members noted that this location is the town centre, the gateway into White Rock, and agreed that the re-design of Johnston Road would need to provide infrastructure to support the local businesses and create a positive experience for visitors to the area.

The 2014 capital budget for sidewalks is \$340,000 for the east side from Russell Avenue to North Bluff Road. It was suggested that other funding be sought to complete the west side at the same time and possibly some road works.

It was noted that the properties on the east side of Johnston Road from Russell Avenue to North Bluff Road all extend to George Street. It was suggested that future building on that side of the street be set back further than it is currently.

Staff will provide cost estimates at the next meeting to enable the Task Force to establish construction phases.

5. RELOCATION OF CROSSWALK – JOHNSTON ROAD IN BETWEEN NORTH BLUFF ROAD AND RUSSELL AVENUE

It was noted that the current crosswalk in between North Bluff Road and Russell Avenue is too close to North Bluff Road, causing vehicles to back into the intersection on a green light to await the crossing of pedestrians. This crosswalk will be moved south to approximately 1549 Johnston Road. Members requested that bulges still be used, and that a crossing light and median for refuge be installed for pedestrians unable to cross in a timely manner. The median may also have a control button for the pedestrian light.

Businesses on the west side of Johnston Road have their own parking, so it was suggested to remove the street parking on the west side of Johnston Road and remove existing curb bulges to create a through lane to Russell.

There was some discussion around removing the mid-block crosswalk between Russell Avenue and Thrift Avenue. Members decided to focus the meeting on the Russell Avenue to North Bluff Road section of Johnston Road, with the Thrift Avenue to Russell Avenue section to be discussed at a future meeting.

6. INGRESS/EGRESS OF CENTRAL PLAZA

Currently there is a left turn lane from Johnston Road into Central Plaza that has been identified as a hazard by the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia. This turning lane will be removed and the median extended to meet up with the next median to the south.

Discussion was held regarding street lights, could feature a banner bar for hanging banners, hanging baskets in summer and possibly a sprinkler system. Medians will have a fence down the middle and can be planted with pampas grasses and other low plants.

It was requested that Associated Engineering prepare a plan for street lights in the median where possible, and on the sidewalk where not possible, staggering them appropriately.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Johnston Road Task Force request that Council direct staff to prepare a report/plan containing:

A continuous fence on the median between the traffic signal and crosswalks;

Move mid-block crosswalk south to 1549 Johnston Road;

Put Safety/refuge median at the cross walk and reduce or eliminate curb bulges;

Put street lighting in the new median where possible;

No trees on sidewalks;

Extend median from the current cross walk location on Johnston Road south of North Bluff Road to the new crosswalk location at 1549 Johnston Road.

CARRIED

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on February 19, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

9. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The Chairperson declared the meeting concluded at 2:05 p.m.

Councillor Campbell, Chairperson

Lorraine Sym, Committee and FOI Clerk