BUDGET COMMITTEE - MAY 26, 2003

NEW WESTMINSTER DRIVE AT BATHURST STREET

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works in consultation with the Director of Reserves and Investments recommends:

That modifications to the eastbound lanes of New Westminister Drive approaching Bathurst Street are not considered to be a high priority and are not warranted at this time.

Purpose

To respond to the following direction of Council given at their meeting of March 17, 2003:

- "1. That the eastbound lanes on New Westminister Drive west of Bathurst Street be evaluated for the merits of providing a 10 metre pavement width and that the cost benefits, and the possibility of using development charges to fund the project, be reported to a future Committee of the Whole meeting; and
- 2. That this request be referred to the first possible Budget Committee meeting; and
- 3. That the following report of Councillor Kadis, dated March 3, 2003, be received."

Background - Analysis and Options

The intersection of Bathurst Street and New Westminister Drive was constructed in 1989. There are three eastbound lanes approaching Bathurst Street; a left turn lane, a straight through lane and a straight through/right turn lane. The widths of the three lanes as constructed varies from 8.6 - 8.75 metres. Under the current Transportation Association of Canada design guidelines the recommended total width of the three lanes would be 10 metres. Therefore the lanes are marginally narrower than would ideally be desired.

Transportation staff have carried out an investigation of accident history at the subject intersection and found no accidents attributable in any way to the lane widths. Therefore, staff do not believe this situation to be a safety hazard which would warrant reconstruction of this section of roadway at considerable expense.

Funding for such an undertaking would be drawn from taxation, not development charges. As taxation and long-term debt funds are limited and as the City's five year road renewal program calls for \$9 Million annually in funding for high priority road needs, staff do not recommend that this section of roadway be reconstructed at this time.

Conclusion

The eastbound lanes of New Westminster Drive approaching Bathurst Street do not require reconstruction at this time.

Attachments

1. Location Map

Report prepared by:

Pat Marcantonio – C.E.T. – Senior Engineering Assistant, ext 3110 Dan Stevens, P. Eng. – Manager of Engineering/Construction Services, 3101

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Robinson, P. Eng. Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works

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