

COUNCIL REPORT

TO: CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2007 MARCH 21

FROM: MAJOR CIVIC BUILDING PROJECT
COORDINATION COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: FUNDING FOR THE METROTOWN PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

PURPOSE: To seek Council funding authorization for the construction of the Metrotown Pedestrian Bridge over Kingsway.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$3,392,000, inclusive of 6% GST, for construction of the Metrotown Pedestrian Bridge over Kingsway, as outlined in this report.
2. **THAT** a Development Cost Charge Reserves Expenditure Bylaw in the amount of \$3,392,000, inclusive of 6% GST, be brought forward to fund the construction of the Metrotown Pedestrian Bridge over Kingsway drawing from the established DCC reserve.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

As previously authorized by Council in 2006, the City retained the consulting firm of Busby Perkins + Will to design the Metrotown Pedestrian Bridge over Kingsway. The proposed pedestrian bridge will span approximately 145 ft. across Kingsway and will link the Intercorp development on the north side of Kingsway to the existing pedestrian structure on the Sears' property south of Kingsway.

The design that has been developed is an elegant contemporary architectural structure that is composed of materials and finishes reflective of those being used in new developments being constructed in the Metrotown area. The main bridge elements are comprised of steel and wood glu-lam beams, preformed concrete deck sections, continuous glazing panels to an eight foot height for pedestrian safety and security and an arched roof to provide for weather protection.

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Constructing the structure over Kingsway will pose several challenges for the contractor as they will need to deal with traffic control, site safety and other logistical site issues. To assist the contractor, the City has negotiated an agreement with Sears which will allow the contractor to use a portion of the Company's north parking lot as a construction staging area until the end of 2007 August.

On 2007 March 15, the City Purchasing Manager received four tenders from prequalified General Contractors. The low tender is within budget and is currently being reviewed to prepare a recommendation for subsequent Council approval. Timing of the construction of the pedestrian bridge is a critical factor given the delivery times for some of the bridge elements and the limited time available to the contractor for the use of Sears' parking lot as a staging area. In preparation for the award of a contract to the successful low bidder, this report seeks Council funding authorization and approval to bring down the required expenditure bylaw drawing from the established Metrotown Pedestrian Link Development Cost Charges (DCC) Reserves.

2.0 FINANCING

The Metrotown Pedestrian Link DDC Reserve, as of 2006 December 31, has sufficient funds available, totalling \$3,202,000, to fund the project, net of 6% GST. The GST component of \$192,000 will be funded on an interim basis from the Gaming Fund. The Gaming Fund would be reimbursed on receipt of the GST rebate. The funds being requested include construction, consulting fees and miscellaneous cost to complete the project. This report seeks Council expenditure authorization and approval for introduction of an expenditure bylaw in the amount of \$3,392,000, inclusive of GST, to fund construction of the pedestrian bridge. In order to advance approvals in accordance with Council's meeting schedule in a timely manner, the requested expenditure bylaw appears elsewhere on Council's agenda for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading. This project is in accordance with the 2007 – 2011 Annual Capital Budget submission.

3.0 CONCLUSION

This report seeks Council expenditure authorization and approval to bring down the required expenditure bylaw in the amount of \$3,392,000, inclusive of 6% GST drawing from the designated Metrotown Pedestrian Link DCC Reserve to finance the construction of the bridge.

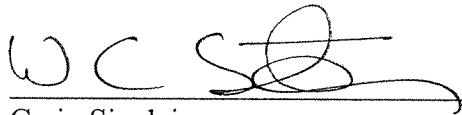
Given the time limited nature of the City's agreement with Sears for temporary use a of portion of their parking lot for staging for the construction of the Kingsway Pedestrian Bridge, Council authorization for the required expenditure and consideration of the necessary expenditure bylaw are being sought concurrently on this Council agenda.

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Subject to receiving the requested funding approval, staff will forward a subsequent report to Council with a recommendation for the award of the construction contract to the successful low bidder.



Basil Luksun, Chair
Major Civic Building Project
Coordination Committee



Craig Sinclair
Director Engineering

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cc: Deputy City Manager
Director Finance
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
City Solicitor
City Clerk