

TO: CITY MANAGER **2001 SEPTEMBER 17**

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
2002/2003 B.C. HYDRO BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM

PURPOSE: To outline proposed underground wiring projects for submission to B.C. Hydro for cost sharing in the 2002/2003 Beautification Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** staff be authorized to apply to B.C. Hydro for cost sharing assistance in removing the overhead lines described in this report.

R E P O R T

1.0 BACKGROUND

In a letter dated 2001 August 23, which appeared as an item before Council on 2001 September 10, B.C. Hydro invited the City of Burnaby to consider projects for submission under the terms of B.C. Hydro's 2002/2003 Beautification Program with a deadline for submission of 2001 October 01.

For a number of years, Burnaby has been pursuing an incremental program to remove overhead power lines from our primary urban areas. Participation in the B.C. Hydro Beautification Program on a regular basis has provided one-third cost sharing for various such underground wiring projects. For example, funding assistance under the Beautification Program has been received to underground the overhead lines on Patterson Avenue adjacent to Central Park, on Elgin Place and on the Government Street corridor (Lougheed Town Centre). The 2001/2002 submission, Bennett Street (from Nelson Avenue to Marlborough Avenue) in Metrotown, is now in its design stage, and should commence construction shortly.

2.0 2002/2003 BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM APPLICATION

For the 2002/2003 Program, staff propose to submit an application to B.C. Hydro for the following projects:

- a) Canada Way (from Gilmore Way to Curle Avenue), adjacent to Discovery Place Business Park.

- b) Southpoint Drive (from Sandborne Avenue to Twentieth Street) in the Edmonds Town Centre, adjacent to the Hanna Court and B.C. Hydro Children's Centres.
- c) Nelson Avenue (from Jubilee Avenue to Imperial Street) in Metrotown, adjacent to the Cenotaph area of Bonsor Park.
- d) Canada Way (from Kensington Avenue to Deer Lake Avenue), and Deer Lake/Sperling Avenue (essentially Sperling Avenue from Canada Way to Hampstead Place), adjacent to Deer Lake Park.

As background, project (a) was added to the list of priorities due to an opportunity to underground overhead lines in connection with the proposed redevelopment of Discovery Place land (and related road improvements) at the southwest corner of Canada Way and Gilmore (Rezoning Reference #98-51). In considering a report on this matter at its meeting of 2001 June 18, Council approved a recommended cost sharing approach between the City and the developer, Discovery Parks Incorporated to the reconstruction of the Canada Way/Gilmore intersection and associated transition, and authorized staff to make an application for funding from the B.C. Hydro Beautification Program to assist in achieving the undergrounding of overhead wiring in conjunction with the roadworks.

Upon Council approval to proceed with the application for these four projects, staff will prepare requests for one-third cost sharing from the B.C. Hydro Beautification Program. Upon receipt of Burnaby's application, B.C. Hydro will provide ball park cost estimates for Burnaby's proposed projects. At that time, a further report will be submitted to Council to consider the recommended priority project, and to outline City funding requirements for the 2002/2003 Program.

3.0 FUNDING

Sufficient Capital Reserves are available and \$325,000 is provided in the 2002 Land Development component of the 2001-2005 Annual Capital Program



J. S. Belhouse
Director Planning and Building

EK/dbh

cc: Director Engineering
Director Finance
Manager, Transportation Planning