

TO: CITY MANAGER

2003 November 19

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE
2004/2005 B.C. HYDRO BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM
Proposed Priority Project for 2004/2005 - Cameron Street Phase 2

PURPOSE: To update the status of Burnaby's Application to B.C. Hydro for underground wiring funding assistance and to seek Council authorization to pursue the priority project on Cameron Street Phase 2 from Beaverbrook Drive to Bell Avenue for 2004/2005.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council bring down a Capital Reserves Expenditure Bylaw in the amount of \$253,500 to fund the City's share of costs to remove overhead line on Cameron Street Phase 2 (Beaverbrook Drive to Bell Avenue).

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

At its 2003 September 29 meeting Council authorized staff to apply to the 2004/2005 B.C. Hydro Beautification Program for one-third (1/3) cost-sharing assistance for the removal of overhead power lines at various locations in Burnaby.

B.C. Hydro has provided the following preliminary cost estimates for Burnaby's identified priority projects:

1. Cameron Street Phase 2 (from Beaverbrook Drive to Bell Avenue) \$260,000 to \$320,000
2. Cameron Street Phase 3 (from Bell Avenue to Keswick Avenue) \$400,000 to \$700,000
3. Canada Way (from Kensington Avenue to Deer Lake Avenue)..... \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000
4. Sprott Street (from Kensington Avenue to Sperling Avenue)..... \$800,000 to \$1,200,000
5. Southpoint Drive (from Sandborne Avenue to Twentieth Street) \$200,000 to \$250,000

B.C. Hydro requires that funding for the City's two-thirds (2/3) share of project costs be confirmed by Council before 2003 November 27 in order that Burnaby's project can be submitted to BC Hydro for advancement through the approval processes and consideration under the terms of the

Beautification Program. If Burnaby is successful in this application, the work would be required to commence within the fiscal year that B.C. Hydro has committed its share of the funds for the projects and to be completed by the end of the next fiscal year.

2.0 PROPOSED PRIORITY PROJECT - CAMERON STREET PHASE 2

While all five projects have merit as desirable beautification projects, it is recognized that the total cost is prohibitive unless phased over a number of years in conjunction with the City's overall Capital spending priorities. Cameron Street Phase 1, the City's priority project for the 2003/2004 Beautification Program, is in its final design stages and is scheduled to begin in Fall 2004. Therefore it is proposed that the Cameron Street Phase 2 project be pursued as the priority project for the 2004/2005 Beautification Program. This project is located within the Lougheed Town Centre, which is now well served by public transit with the SkyTrain Millennium Line, and is expected to accommodate additional commercial and residential growth. Staff have discussed the proposed project with B.C. Hydro staff who have indicated support for our application to initiate a phased approach to the removal of overhead lines along Cameron Street.

The second phase of the project would remove visually obtrusive overhead lines along the south side of Cameron Street from Beaverbrook Drive to Bell Avenue, a portion of Cameron Street which is improved with multiple-family apartment and townhouse developments (see *attached* Sketch #1). Undergrounding the wires along this portion of Cameron Street (south side) is considered appropriate given the unlikelihood of the wires being undergrounded through redevelopment, as the south side frontage already accommodates substantial low-rise apartments. Civic contributions to this beautification project along Cameron Street will convey a sense of public commitment to improvements in the Lougheed Town Centre as a means of promoting redevelopment in this quadrant of the City. Since the approved 2003/2004 B.C. Hydro Beautification Program submission was Cameron Street Phase 1 (from Bartlett Court to Beaverbrook Drive), it is appropriate that Phase 2 follow the work that is currently underway.

3.0 PROJECT COSTS - CAMERON STREET PHASE 2

Project costs and the City of Burnaby funds required for the proposed project are outlined below based on the preliminary estimates provided by B.C. Hydro. It is noted that at this time, the project costs are based upon the high end of the cost range provided and that more detailed estimates will be pursued upon receiving commitment to the project.

A.)	Estimated undergrounding costs	\$320,000
	B.C. Hydro contribution (1/3 total)	\$106,667
	City of Burnaby contribution (2/3 total)	\$213,333
B.)	Total telephone lines component	\$4,000
	Telus Contribution (50% cable & pole work)	\$2,000
	City of Burnaby contribution (100% of civil work and 50% of cable & pole work)	\$2,000

C.) Sub-total City of Burnaby Contributions	\$215,333
Add 10% contingency	\$21,533
7% GST	\$16,580
City of Burnaby Funding Requirement	\$253,447
(Bylaw required to cover this amount)	
Net Cost (after 4 % GST rebate)	\$243,975

4.0 FINANCING


It is expected that the project will commence by the end of B.C. Hydro's 2004/2005 fiscal year, with completion by the end of the next 2005/2006 fiscal year. Sufficient Capital Reserves are available and \$250,000 is provided in the 2006 Underground wiring component under the Land Development section of the 2004 - 2008 Provisional Capital Program. It is unlikely that the overall cost to the City will exceed the \$250,000 provided in the Provisional Capital Program. However, once more detailed estimates from B.C. Hydro and Telus are received the 2006 Capital Budget will be revised accordingly if needed.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The removal of overhead utility lines is considered to be a desirable and worthwhile endeavour for the City of Burnaby to pursue jointly with B.C. Hydro through the B.C. Hydro Beautification Program.

It is proposed that the underground wiring project on Cameron Street Phase 2 (from Beaverbrook Drive to Bell Avenue) be given priority in Burnaby's current application to B.C. Hydro.

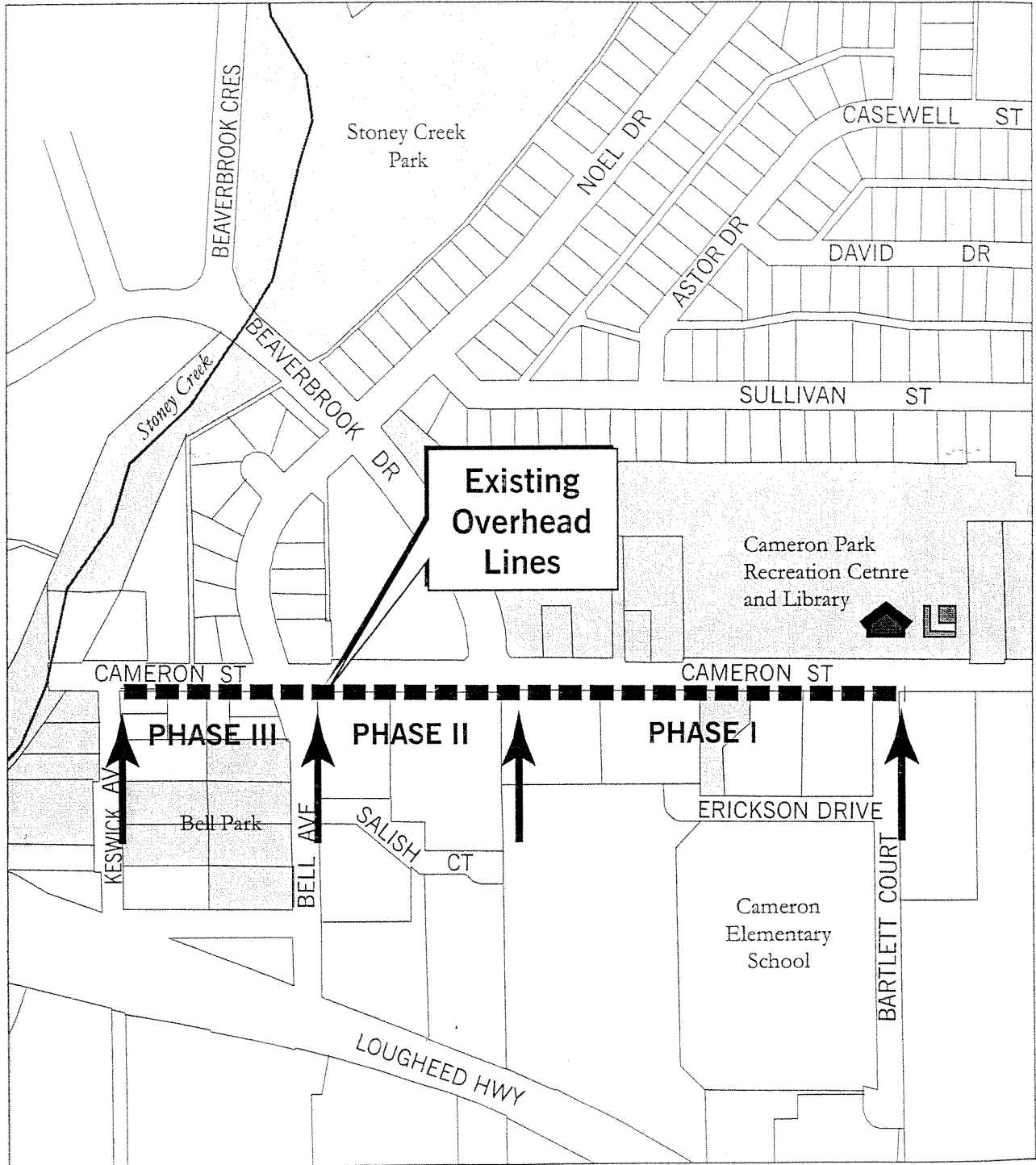
Therefore, it is recommended that Council bring down a bylaw to appropriate \$253,500 (including 7% GST) from Capital Reserves to fund the City's share of costs to remove overhead lines as outlined in this report.



J.S. Belhouse
Director Planning and Building

JBS:gk
Attach

cc. Director Engineering
 Director Finance
 Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
 Manager, Transportation Planning



Sketch #1
 Cameron Street Project
 Proposed Underground Wiring
 BC Hydro Beautification Program, 2004/2005

