

**TO:** CITY MANAGER 2005 July 5  
**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING FILE: 18000-20  
**SUBJECT:** 2005 ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS TO CITY FACILITIES  
**PURPOSE:** To seek Council's approval that a Capital Expenditure Bylaw be brought down to finance accessibility improvements at various City facilities in 2005.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** a Capital Expenditure Bylaw in the amount of \$31,000 (inclusive of 7% GST) be brought forward to finance accessibility improvements at various City facilities in 2005, as outlined in Section 2.0 and 3.0 of this report.

**REPORT**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

Under the Community Amenity Projects component of the adopted 2005 Annual Capital Budget, \$50,000 has been designated to continue a program of accessibility initiatives that would permit persons with mobility disabilities to use civic facilities more fully. As in previous years, discussions have taken place between Burnaby's Access Advisory Committee and City staff to identify priority access improvements. This report presents proposed improvements for 2005.

**2.0 PROPOSED ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS**

The Burnaby Access Advisory Committee is comprised of Burnaby residents who have disabilities, representatives of organizations working with people who have disabilities and City staff. The Committee, in conjunction with contacts from various City departments, proposes the following improvements:

**Edmonds Community Centre for 55 +**

- provision of an "Equalizer" - weight lifting equipment for upper body strength training. The equipment is designed to be equally accessible for people with disabilities and people without physical disabilities.

**Central Park Pool**

- provision of a waterproof wheelchair.

**Eileen Dailly Leisure Pool**

- minor expansion to the designated accessible change compartment of the family change room. The expansion will accommodate a portable lift.

- provision of two waterproof wheelchairs.

**Bonsor Recreation Centre**

- replacement of carpets at the main entrance with specially designed low pile carpets that provide easier access to the building for wheelchair users.
- minor accessibility improvements (installation of handles and grab bars) in lower floor washrooms.

These proposed modest improvements are part of a continuing program to provide better access to City facilities for persons with disabilities. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff have indicated that the above could be undertaken for \$26,000.

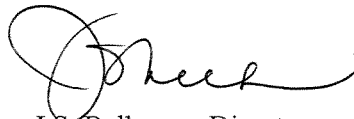
**3.0 ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

In previous years, staff have noted that after the Capital Expenditure Bylaw is brought down, additional small accessibility improvements have been identified (e.g. installation of additional handles in washrooms, construction of small ramps). Therefore, in addition to the above-noted improvements, it is recommended that \$5000 be released from the Community Amenity Projects component of the Annual Capital Program to allow for various improvements on an as needed basis. The availability of these funds would provide greater flexibility for staff to carry out small accessibility projects as they arise throughout the year. As in previous years, staff will report on the completed accessibility improvements in the annual work plan report of the Burnaby Access Advisory Committee that is submitted the Social Issues Committee.

**4.0 FINANCING**

Sufficient Capital Reserves are available and provision of accessibility improvements has been included under Community Amenity Projects component of the 2005-2009 Annual Capital Program.

It is recommended that Council bring forward a Capital Expenditure Bylaw in the amount of \$31,000 (inclusive of GST) to finance accessibility improvements to various City facilities.



J.S. Belhouse, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

MM/sla

- cc: Director Finance  
City Clerk  
City Solicitor  
Director Engineering  
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services