

Meeting 2009 Sep 14

COUNCIL REPORT

# TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

SUBJECT: CROSSWALK AT CENTRAL BLVD AND BONSOR AVE

# **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- THAT Council approve the upgrade of the existing special crosswalk at the 1. intersection of Central Blvd and Bonsor Ave to a full traffic signal with the funding requirement of \$131,000 (inclusive of 5% GST) to be included in the 2010 Capital budget discussion process.
- THAT a copy of this report be provided to Mr. Allan A. Tummon #903 6521 2. Bonsor Ave, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4N3.

### REPORT

The Traffic Safety Committee, at its meeting held on 2009 September 08, received and adopted the <u>attached</u> report responding to a request to upgrade the existing special crosswalk at Central Blvd and Bonsor Ave to a full traffic signal.

Upgrading the existing special crosswalk at Central and Bonsor to a full traffic signal will enhance safety by improving pedestrian crossing conditions and vehicular circulation.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor S. Dhaliwal Chair

Councillor C. Jordan Vice Chair

Councillor P. McDonell Member

Copied to: City Manager

Director Finance

Director Engineering





TO:

CHAIR AND MEMBERS

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE:

2009 September 01

FROM:

DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

FILE:

38000 20

Ref:

Traffic Safety

**SUBJECT:** 

CROSSWALK AT CENTRAL BLVD AND BONSOR AVE

**PURPOSE:** 

To respond to a request to upgrade the existing special crosswalk at Central Blvd

and Bonsor Ave to a full traffic signal

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. THAT the Committee recommend that Council approve the upgrade of the existing special crosswalk at the intersection of Central Blvd and Bonsor Ave to a full traffic signal with the funding requirement of \$131,000 (inclusive of 5% GST) to be included in the 2010 Capital budget discussion process.

2. THAT a copy of this report be provided to Mr. Allan A. Tummon #903 - 6521 Bonsor Ave, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4N3.

#### REPORT

# 1.0 BACKGROUND

In late 2008 the Traffic Safety Committee received correspondence from Mr. Allan Tummon, a resident of Bonsor St in close proximity to the subject intersection. Mr. Tummon requested that the existing special crosswalk be replaced with a full traffic signal to enhance safety and better regulate traffic movements. He was also concerned about the speed of traffic and the frequent use of the intersection by children. His request was referred to staff for review and report.

### 2.0 ANALYSIS

In 2009 May, staff conducted manual and automated traffic counts at the intersection of Central Blvd and Bonsor Ave (see <u>attached plan</u>). At the same time field observations were made to better understand the operation of the intersection from the perspective of a motorist and a pedestrian. An analysis of the pedestrian crossing conditions showed that a pedestrian signal was warranted during the afternoon peak periods when the volume of pedestrians tend to be greater and the number of crossing opportunities tend to be lower due to the higher volume of traffic along Central Blvd.

An analysis of the vehicular operation at the intersection showed that a full traffic signal would be useful in reducing conflicts due to the total volume of traffic entering the intersection.

To: Traffic Safety Committee From: Director Engineering

Re: Crosswalk at Central Blvd and Bonsor Ave

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However, it also showed that the volume of traffic that would benefit most from the signal (i.e. left turning vehicles from southbound Bonsor to eastbound Central) was relatively low. The majority of southbound vehicles (85%) along Bonsor made a right turn at Central.

The collision history at the intersection shows an average of 4 per year. No unusual patterns or frequency were found.

### 3.0 DISCUSSION

The analysis shows that the current special crosswalks at the intersection of Bonsor Ave and Central Blvd should be upgraded to at least a pedestrian signal to facilitate pedestrians crossing Central Blvd. In assessing the need for a full traffic signal at the intersection, further consideration was given to traffic conditions in the surrounding area.

Bonsor between Central and Bennett provides vehicular access to many of the surrounding uses including residents, and visitors to the Bonsor Community Centre and Metropolis. Currently the demand for left turns from Bonsor to Central is low partly because it is not as convenient. The installation of a full traffic signal will likely attract more traffic to the intersection, particularly vehicles destined to the south or east. This is not considered to be a concern given Bonsor's functional role as a major local collector. In fact, the signal will improve vehicular circulation and accessibility to the area while enhancing safety at the intersection. The signal can be coordinated with adjacent signals to minimize any disruption to traffic flows along Central. Therefore a full traffic signal at Bonsor and Central is recommended.

The cost of the new signal is estimated to be \$131,000. This figure is lower than a new signal installation because some of the required hardware is already in place as part of the existing special crosswalk. The funding requirement of \$131,000 (inclusive of 5% GST) will be included in the 2010 Capital budget discussion process. Contributions from ICBC will also be sought to help offset a portion of the cost.

## 4.0 CONCLUSION

The existing special crosswalk at Central and Bonsor is recommended to be upgraded to a full traffic signal to enhance safety by improving pedestrian crossing conditions and vehicular circulation. It is recommended that the estimated cost of the signal at \$131,000 (inclusive of 5% GST) be included as part of the 2010 Capital program. Funding contributions from ICBC will be sought to help offset the cost.

Lambert S. Chu, P.Eng.

DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

EJ/br

Copied to:

City Manager Director Finance

