



Item .....
Meeting..... 2009 March 23

## COUNCIL REPORT

**TO:** CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2009 MARCH 18

**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING **FILE:** 83000.03  
*Reference:* BC Hydro Beautification Project

**SUBJECT:** APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE  
2009/2010 BC HYDRO BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM  
PROPOSED PRIORITY PROJECT FOR 2009-2010  
CANADA WAY BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

**PURPOSE:** To update the status of Burnaby's Application to BC Hydro for underground wiring funding assistance and to seek Council authorization to pursue the priority project Canada Way for 2009-2010.

### RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council bring down a Capital Reserves Expenditure Bylaw in the amount of \$653,125 (including 5% GST) to fund the City's share of costs to remove overhead lines on Canada Way.

## REPORT

### 1.0 BACKGROUND

At its meeting on 2005 November 7, Council authorized staff to apply to the 2006 BC Hydro Beautification Program for one-third (1/3) cost-sharing assistance for the removal of overhead power lines at various locations in Burnaby. As indicated previously to Council, there have been some delays in receiving design drawings and final cost estimates for Burnaby's identified priority project on the south side of Canada Way between Kensington Avenue and Deer Lake Avenue. However, these drawings have now been received and reviewed.

BC Hydro has provided the following estimate based on bids received for this project:

Canada Way Beautification Project.....\$881,245 (including GST)

BC Hydro requires that funding for the City's two-thirds (2/3) share of project costs be confirmed by Council by 2009 March 31 in order for Burnaby's project to 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 BC Hydro has committed its share of the funds for the projects and to be completed by the end of the next fiscal year.

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## 2.0 PROPOSED PRIORITY PROJECT – CANADA WAY BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

This project would seek to underground highly visible overhead wires and remove poorly sited hydro poles along the south side of Canada Way between Kensington Avenue and Deer Lake Avenue, adjacent to the civic arts and cultural precinct. Civic contributions to a beautification project along this stretch of Canada Way will not only convey a sense of public commitment to improvements in the City's high profile arts and cultural precinct, but also enhance safety and access for pedestrians and those using mobility aids as poles currently situated within the abutting sidewalk area will be removed. Two City of Burnaby street lights, also within the abutting sidewalk will also be moved off the sidewalk.

In order for the City's share of costs to be consistent with the amount budgeted in the City's Capital Program, this project would be financed over two years.

## 3.0 PROJECT COSTS – CANADA WAY BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Project costs and the City of Burnaby funds required for the proposed project are outlined below, based on bids received by BC Hydro.

A.	Estimated undergrounding costs (including GST).....	\$881,245
	BC Hydro contribution (1/3 of total) .....	\$293,748
	City of Burnaby contribution (2/3 total) .....	\$587,497
B.	Total telephone lines component .....	\$1600
	Telus Contribution (50% of total).....	\$800
	City of Burnaby contribution (50% of total) .....	\$800
C.	Sub-total City of Burnaby Contributions.....	\$588,297
	Add 10% contingency.....	\$58,828
	City of Burnaby Funding Requirement (for street light relocation) .....	\$6,000
	<b>Bylaw required to cover this amount.....</b>	<b>\$653,125</b>

## 4.0 FINANCING

It is expected that the project will commence following final approval, with completion by 2010 March 31. A total of \$1,350,000.00 is provided in the Underground Wiring component of the Land Development section of the 2009-2013 Provisional Capital Program. \$300,000.00 is provided in the 2009 Annual Capital Program and \$350,000 is provided for in the 2010 Provisional Capital Program.

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## 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 BC Hydro through the BC Hydro Beautification Program.

Therefore, it is recommended that Council bring down a bylaw to appropriate \$653,125 (including 5% GST) from Capital Reserves to fund the City's share of costs to remove overhead lines as outlined in this report.



B. Luksun, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

DR:gk/tn

cc. Director Engineering  
Director Finance  
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services