
TO: CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2011 November 23

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

**SUBJECT: BC HYDRO BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM
UNDERGROUND WIRING PROJECT - DEER LAKE AVENUE**

PURPOSE: To seek Council approval for an underground wiring project on Deer Lake Avenue for cost share funding under the 2012 – 2013 BC Hydro Beautification Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council approve the Deer Lake Avenue underground wiring project, as outlined in this report.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

At its meeting on 2011 October 17, Council authorized staff to apply to the BC Hydro Beautification Program for one-third (1/3) cost-sharing funding assistance for the removal of overhead power lines at various locations in Burnaby.

BC Hydro has reviewed the locations submitted for consideration by Burnaby, and has provided a preliminary cost estimate for a project considered suitable for implementation under the BC Hydro Beautification Program. The selected project on Deer Lake Avenue, adjacent to Deer Lake Park, extending from Canada Way to Century Park Way, is indicated on Sketch #1 attached.

This report seeks Council approval for this underground wiring project. With the requested Council approval, BC Hydro would advance the City's application through its approval processes for allocation of the available 1/3 cost share funding assistance, under the terms of the Beautification Program. If Burnaby is successful in this application, a further report would be prepared for Council to seek specific funding authorization in line with a finalized estimate.

This report also presents information on the preliminary funding contribution for this project that is attributable to the Transportation Improvement (TI) Corporation in relation to the Gateway Highway #1 improvements being completed at the Canada Way and Kensington intersection. Once approved, BC Hydro would expect to commence work on the project in 2012 with the works being completed by March 31 2013.

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2.0 PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed project is on Deer Lake Avenue and extends from Canada Way to Century Park Way, as shown on Sketch #1. This project would continue the works of the 2009-2010 Beautification Project which removed the wiring along Canada Way from Kensington Avenue to the Sperling/Deer Lake Avenue intersection. This project would improve the streetscape adjacent to Deer Lake Park by undergrounding highly visible overhead wires and removing poorly sited hydro poles along the south side Deer Lake Avenue and adjacent to the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts and Century Gardens.

It is noted that, as outlined to Council previously under the Burnaby Access Memorandum, TI Corporation had previously committed to underground a portion of the works involved in this project as part of the Kensington/Canada Way intersection improvements. In terms of the scope of the work, TI Corporation has responsibility for the removal and undergrounding of wiring related to four of the six identified poles, approximately two-thirds of the project, involved in the proposed beautification program. Staff have contacted TI Corporation regarding the opportunity to participate in a shared undergrounding program in this area. TI Corporation has agreed, in principle, to reimburse the City for TI Corporations share of the proposed works, consistent with their current commitment under the Gateway Program to complete these works.

Details of the respective cost contributions to be made by the City and TI Corporation would be provided once BC Hydro has confirmed that its cost share funding under the Beautification Program would be contributed to the project, and has prepared the finalized cost estimate for the project to be constructed by BC Hydro.

3.0 PRELIMINARY PROJECT COST ESTIMATE

The preliminary project cost estimate, inclusive of 10% contingency and 12% HST, is in the order of \$688,000. The extent of TI Corporation's cost share of the program will be determined upon receipt of a finalized BC Hydro Estimate. TI Corporation's contribution to the project will be guided by the works located within the scope of the Gateway Project improvements at Canada Way and Kensington, previously committed by TI Corporation. The specific cost share attributed to TI Corporation would be determined in relation to a more detailed review of the finalized BC Hydro estimate and project design, and through specific discussions between TI Corporation and City staff. BC Hydro's cost contribution to the project attributable to the City under the Beautification Program is currently estimated at \$200,000. On this basis, the net resulting City expenditures for the project would be significantly off-set by the TI Corporation and BC Hydro funding contributions.

Once the details of finalized project costs and cost share contributions are concluded, a further report would be prepared for Council. At that time, as appropriate, Council approval would be sought to bring down the necessary Capital Reserves Expenditure Bylaw to fund the project.

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4.0 FINANCING

A sufficient Capital Budget allocation has been advanced for Council's consideration as part of the 2012 – 2016 Provisional Capital Program to allow for implementation of this project. The project would be completed over two years of the Capital Program in 2012 and 2013. The specific capital budget allocation advanced for the underground wiring projects for 2012 is \$350,000 and for 2013 is \$200,000.

For preparation of the 2012 - 2016 Annual Capital Program, the budget allocation for this project would be updated consistent with the finalized cost estimates and cost share contributions attributable to the City, including the costs of any necessary civil or other works related to the project. As noted above, the City cost contribution to the project is expected to be largely off-set by the BC Hydro grant and the finalized TI Corporation contribution to the project related to their responsibilities at Canada Way and Kensington.

5.0 CONCLUSION

An underground wiring project on Deer Lake Avenue extending from Canada Way to Century Park Way is considered supportable for Burnaby's application to BC Hydro for cost share funding under the Beautification Program, with the appropriate contribution forthcoming from TI Corporation. A further report providing specific information on the cost contribution contributions based on a finalized project estimate would be submitted to Council for consideration in a further report. At that time, as appropriate, Council authority to bring down the necessary Capital Reserves Expenditure bylaw to fund the project would be sought.

On this basis, it is recommended that Council approve the Deer Lake Avenue underground wiring project, as outlined in this report.

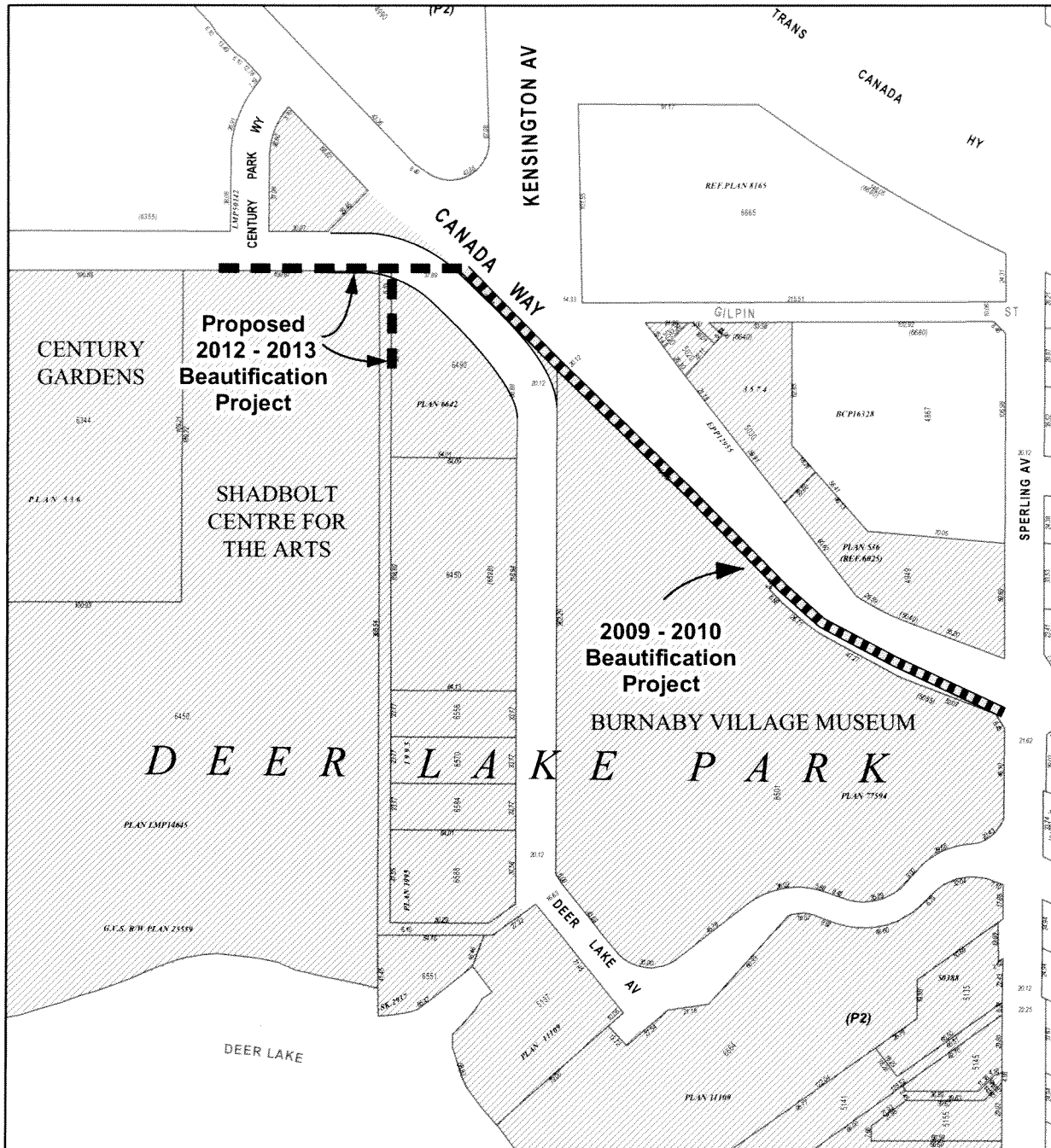


B. Luksun, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

DR:tn

Attachment

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



City of
Burnaby

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Date:
NOV 22 2011

scale:
1:3,300

Drawn By:
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Hydro Beautification Projects

- 2009-2010 Beautification Project
- 2012-2013 Beautification Project