

To: Chief Administrative Officer **Date:** April 17, 2023
From: Arthur Kastelein, Senior Infrastructure Planning Engineer
Subject: Rural Roads Safety Improvements - Update

Recommendation(s)

This report is presented for information. No staff recommendation accompanies this report and Council action is not required.

Purpose

This report presents an update on the Rural Roads Safety Improvement Program.

Background

Road safety concerns from residents of the Steelhead Community resulted in a Rural Road Safety Review, a study completed by road safety engineers at Watt Consulting Group. It was presented to Council in July 2022 and a \$200,000 budget was subsequently approved for implementation of improvements, namely:

- Improved and additional curve warning signs and chevron alignment signs (some with flashing LED lights);
- Post-mounted shoulder flexible delineators;
- Recessed pavement reflectors;
- Pavements marking restoration and improvements; and
- Two speed reader boards.

Watt Consulting Group prepared design drawings and specifications for these works at 18 locations along Dewdney Truck Road, Keystone Avenue, and Hayward Street, plus a speed reader board on Wren Street, on the approach to Tyler Street. Attachment A shows the design for one of the sites (Keystone Avenue at Jacobsen Street), while Attachment B shows the proposed speed reader board on Dewdney Trunk Road.

Staff approached ICBC and successfully secured a grant of up to \$79,000 towards the project through its Road Improvement Program, the objective of which is to improve road safety for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians, reduce motor vehicle crashes and reduce claim costs. This is a sizeable grant from ICBC, reflecting the benefits it sees in the project.

Discussion and Analysis

A Request for Quotations (RFQ 2023-001) was publicly posted to supply and install the safety improvements, but no quotes were submitted by contractors. To keep the project moving and to meet deadlines associated with the ICBC grant, the City's Public Works division agreed to take on the role as general contractor for the work.

Much of the work is specialized and will still be contracted out, but those contractors - for recessed pavement reflectors, pavement markings, and installing the speed reader boards - will

work directly for the City, not an external contractor. As well as general contractor, the Public Works division is ordering signs and sign bases. City staff will be installing the signs and there may be impacts on other projects, but this will be minimized by utilizing temporary seasonal staff for the work.

The project is expected to be completed in July or August 2023 and based on pricing to date, is expected to be in budget.

The safety review included several recommendations for long-term improvements and those will be incorporated into capital programs as appropriate.

More recently, BC Hydro approached the City about improving vehicle and pedestrian safety in and around the Hayward Lake Recreational Area. In coordination with BC Hydro and the City's Forestry Department, the consultant is looking at options for roadside safety improvements at that location.

Council Goals/Objectives

The safety improvements in this project support the Traffic Safety Program, part of Council's goal to make Mission the safest community in the Fraser Valley.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Communication

Project information signs have been installed on both ends of Dewdney Trunk Road, and a project description is posted on the City's website. The web posting will be updated as the work progresses.

Summary and Conclusion

Safety concerns along rural roads in the Steelhead area resulted in designs of safety improvements at 18 sites on Dewdney Truck Road, Keystone Avenue and Hayward Street. The implementation of those improvements is underway, with the Public Works section acting as general contractor. It is expected the project will be complete in July or August 2023.

Report Prepared by: Arthur Kastelein, Senior Infrastructure Planning Engineer

Reviewed by: Allen Xu, Manager of Engineering Planning and Assets

Reviewed by: Tracy Kyle, Director of Engineering & Public Works

Approved for Inclusion: Mike Younie, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment(s)

Attachment A: Design Drawing – Keystone Avenue at Jacobsen Street

Attachment B: Dewdney Trunk Road Speed Reader Board Installation Location Map