



Governance and Priorities Committee Report

Date: April 17, 2014 **From:** Brad Dellebuur, Manager, Transportation
Subject: Active Transportation Capital Projects – 2014 Work Plan

Executive Summary

Council requested staff provide details on 2014 capital projects involving active transportation. According to Transport Canada, active transportation is any form of human-powered transportation. It is any trip made for the purposes of getting yourself, or others, to a particular destination - to work, to school, to the store or to visit friends. Walking and cycling are the most popular forms of active transportation and are often combined with other modes, notably public transit.

Active transportation projects include all works that improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists. A list and map of 2014 projects planned for 2014 by the Engineering and Public Works Department, and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department, along with a scope of the work being proposed for each project and anticipated costs, have been provided for Council's information.

Engineering and Public Works Department capital expenditures on active transportation in 2014 are projected to be \$1,533,100. The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department are projecting to spend \$603,000 on active transportation-related projects in 2014.

Active transportation projects contemplated for 2015 include mid-block crosswalks in the 800 block Yates Street and 500 block Fisgard Street, and upgrading the crosswalk at Finlayson/Yew. Cycling-related priority projects will be determined following Bicycle Master Plan consultation.


Recommendation:

That Council receive this report for information.

Respectfully submitted,



Brad Dellebuur, Manager
Transportation



Dwayne Kalynchuk, P.Eng.
Director of Engineering and Public Works

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:



Jason Johnson

Date:



April 17, 2014

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council information on the number, scope, and anticipated cost of active transportation projects being undertaken by the City in 2014.

Background

The 2014 Engineering and Public Works Department Capital budget has a number of projects that address active transportation. The following is a list of programs managed by the Transportation Section, the total budget allocated to each program in 2014, the percentage of that budget that address active transportation, and a list/brief description of each project. A map showing the location of the various projects is also attached.

Crosswalk Upgrades - \$104,000

100% of this budget is for pedestrian-related improvements.

- Bay/Forbes and Bay/Chambers – crosswalk upgrades. Designs for both projects are consistent with the Council-approved long-term plan for the Bay Street corridor approved by Council in 2009.
- 500 block Pandora – installation of new mid-block crosswalk. This project will extend the 500 block mid-block walkway system that exists between Broughton Street and Johnson Street, making it easier for pedestrians to move through the downtown core.

Bicycle Master Plan - \$470,100

100% of this budget is for cycling-related improvements.

- Cook Street – Maplewood to Finlayson – bike lanes. The District of Saanich is planning to construct bicycle facilities on Maplewood Road in 2014. Extending the cycling facilities on Cook Street between the Saanich/Victoria municipal boundary and the Cook/Finlayson intersection will provide connectivity to the existing bike lanes on Finlayson Street.
- Skinner – Bay to Catherine – bike lanes. 1.8m marked, buffered bike lanes are proposed as part of the 'complete streets' reconstruction of Craigflower Road/Skinner Road between Catherine Street and Bay Street. This active transportation project will be a continuation of cycling facilities on Craigflower Road between Catherine Street and Dominion Road. This will also complete the final segment of a continuous system of commuter bike lanes between Colwood and Downtown Victoria, building on Island Highway improvements in the Town of View Royal, and work recently completed on the Craigflower Road corridor in the Township of Esquimalt. A missing sidewalk link on this arterial street will also be completed, encouraging greater pedestrian travel in this part of the Victoria West neighbourhood. \$260,000 of the funding for this project is anticipated to come from the Regional Significant Project Fund (RSPF) portion of federal gas tax allocated to the CRD.
- Johnson/Pandora corridors – pedestrian and cycling amenities. Road narrowing and improved crosswalk signage/markings at the Pandora/Stadacona intersection and the extension of buffered bike lanes through the eastbound right turn lane at the Johnson/Pandora intersection are being constructed. This work is a continuation of the buffered bike lane project installed on the Johnson Street, Begbie Street, and Pandora Avenue corridors in 2013.
- Bike racks - 15 to 20 new bike racks will be installed in various on-street locations downtown, to address the growing demand for convenient bike parking.

Bus Shelter Installation - \$26,000

100% of this budget is for pedestrian-related improvements.

- 700 block Johnson Street – widened sidewalk/bus shelter installation. The existing sidewalk at one of the busier transit zones downtown will be widened to increase space for bus patrons, and a bus shelter will be installed to provide protection from the elements.

Street Light Installations - \$15,000**100% of this budget is for pedestrian-related lighting issues.**

Two locations have been identified where additional street lighting will address visibility/safety concerns, particularly for pedestrians.

- Robert/Seaforth
- Cook/May

Depending on the final project costs for these two installations, additional street lighting requests may be addressed later this year.

LED Pedestrian Signals - \$31,000**100% of this budget is for pedestrian-related improvements.**

This budget is used to install pedestrian countdown signals at signalized locations. Pedestrian countdown signals let pedestrians know how much time remains to cross the street. The five locations identified for 2014 are:

- Douglas/Bay
- Douglas/Superior
- Government/Belleville
- Blanshard/Fairfield
- Government/Humboldt

In addition to countdown signals, audible pedestrian signals will be installed at the Government/Humboldt intersection, to provide enhanced crossing information for pedestrians.

Pedestrian Master Plan Implementation - \$358,000**100% of this budget is for pedestrian-related improvements.**

This budget is used to address areas where gaps in the pedestrian network exist, based on links identified in the Council-approved Pedestrian Master Plan. Projects identified for 2014 include:

- Sea Terrace – Dunsmuir to Barnard Park. 75m of sidewalk will be installed, to connect an existing Township of Esquimalt sidewalk to Barnard Park (the existing sidewalk ends mid-block at the City of Victoria boundary). This project will improve pedestrian connections to Barnard Park and the waterfront pathway.
- Quamichan Street at Somenos. 30m of sidewalk will be installed at the Quamichan Street/Somenos Street intersection. In addition to improving overall pedestrian accessibility in the neighbourhood, this also completes a pedestrian link close to a school.
- Belmont - Hillside to Myrtle. 40m of sidewalk will be installed on the west side of the street. The recently-completed sidewalk on the south half of the block was constructed as part of a recent re-development – this work will complete a pedestrian link between Hillside Avenue and Oaklands School.
- Richardson – St. Charles to lane. 40m of sidewalk will be installed on Richardson Street, in response to resident concerns about mobility-impaired access. The new sidewalk on this Collector road will also provide pedestrian access to the adjacent residential properties.
- Gonzales – Foul Bay to Richardson. 125m of sidewalk will be installed, to provide a pedestrian connection between Foul Bay Road and the recently-improved Chandler Greenway.
- Montreal – Simcoe to Niagara. Part of an overall upgrade to this block (curb and gutter, repaving), a sidewalk is being provided to improve the overall pedestrian network in the area.

Streets Rehabilitation – Major Streets - \$555,000**25% of this budget (\$135,000) is for pedestrian-related improvements.**

Road rehabilitation projects are not confined to simply repairing the road surface. Staff will review the complete right-of-way, looking at improving conditions for all users (pedestrians, cyclists, and other road users).

- Tolmie Avenue – Glasgow to Fifth. Sidewalk improvements will be combined with road resurfacing work identified in the Pavement Management program, and the City's 20-year Capital paving plan.
- Catherine Street – Esquimalt to Wilson. Improved conditions for pedestrians – wheelchair ramps, bulbs at intersections to reduce crossing distances, and green space between sidewalks and travel lanes, is being combined with road resurfacing work identified in the Pavement Management program, and the City's 20-year Capital paving plan. This work is also being coordinated with 2014 Victoria West Transportation Plan improvements at the Bay/Catherine intersection.

Major Arterial Upgrades - \$520,000**25% of this budget (\$130,000) is for pedestrian- and cyclist-related improvements.**

- Cook Street – Queens to Caledonia. 340m of road resurfacing, identified in the Pavement Management program and the City's 20-year Capital paving plan, will be completed. In addition to reducing maintenance costs and avoid further deterioration, the purpose of completing the road resurfacing is to improve the surface for all users, including pedestrians and cyclists.
- Douglas Street – northbound curb lane between Bay and Hillside. 290m m of paving is being proposed for the northbound curb lane on Douglas Street, to address safety concerns for cyclists and other road users.

Streets Rehabilitation – Local Streets - \$1,030,000**15% of this budget (\$155,000) is for pedestrian-related improvements.**

- Montreal Street – Simcoe to Niagara. In addition to 200m of paving, this project includes installing a new sidewalk, creating another pedestrian link in the neighbourhood

Victoria West Transportation Plan - \$400,000**25% of this budget (\$100,000) is for pedestrian/cyclist-related improvements.**

- Bay/Catherine – intersection redesign. The intersection is being upgraded, to improve overall safety for all users. Bike lanes will be extended through the intersection, pedestrian crossing distances are being improved, and green space is replacing asphalt.
- Catherine Street – Esquimalt to Wilson. Bulbs are being constructed at intersections to reduce crossing distances, and green space is being installed between sidewalks and travel lanes.

Neighbourhood Transportation Management Plan Implementation - \$50,000**5% of this budget (\$2,500) is for cycling-related improvements.**

- Chestnut/Fort – replacement of temporary barrier. The existing chain and bollard barrier at the south end of Chestnut Street is being replaced with a more aesthetically pleasing, cycling-friendly design.

Other Engineering Department capital projects addressing active transportation:

Parking Services - \$6,500

100% of this budget is for cycling-related improvements.

- Bicycle repair stations (also known as bike kitchens) will be installed in each of the City parkades, to provide public options for cyclists needing to make minor bike repairs.

Engineering and Public Works Department capital expenditures on active transportation in 2014 are projected to be \$1,533,100.

Parks, Playgrounds and Green Spaces

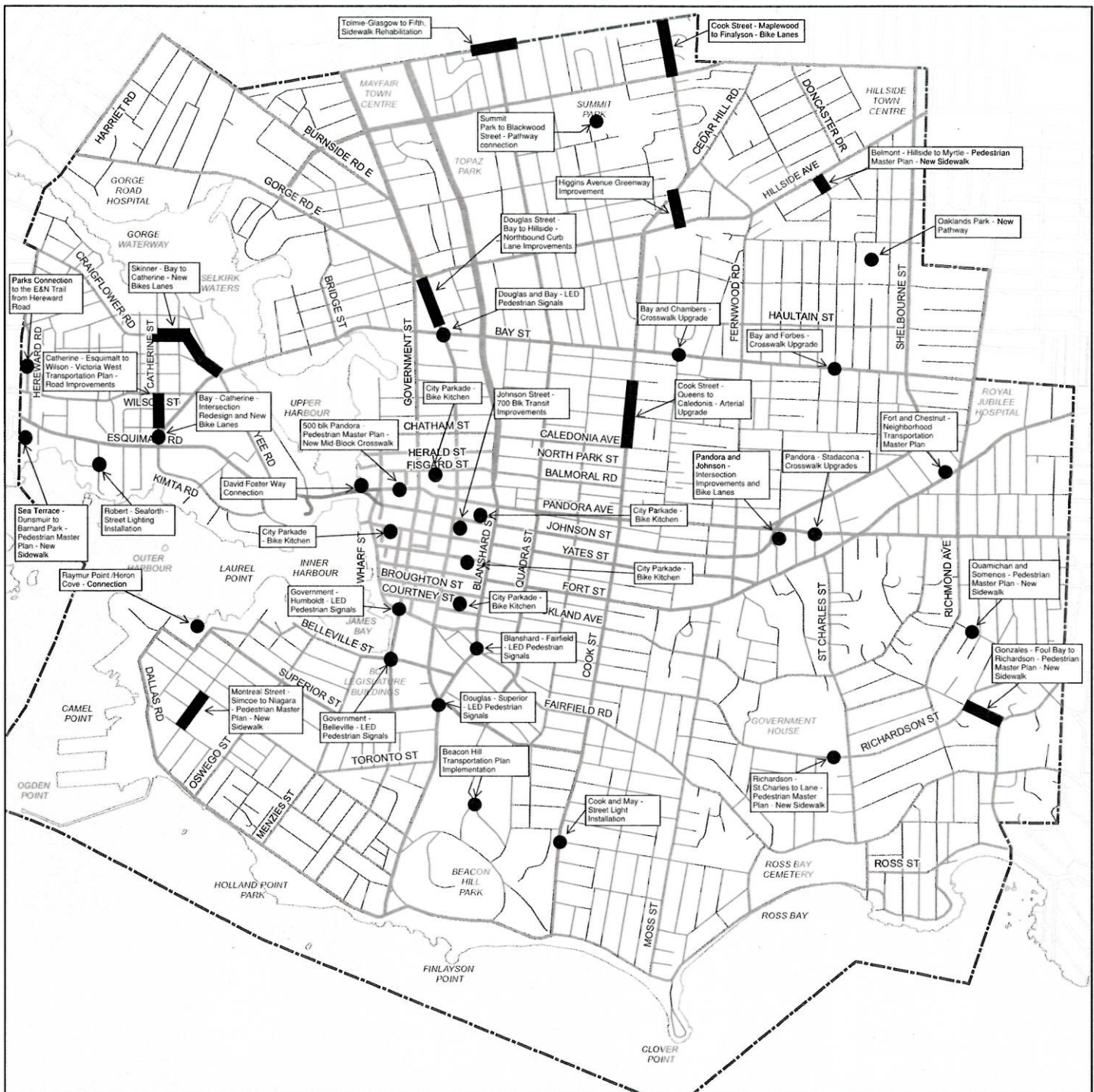
Parks staff project spending \$603,000 of Park Management Plan Implementation and Greenways Plan Implementation capital in 2014 on active transportation projects. They include:

- Oaklands Park pathway - \$75,000
- Higgins Avenue greenway improvements - \$100,000
- Providing connections to the E & N Rail Trail from Hereward Road - \$60,000
- Installing bike racks at several outdoor fitness pods - \$10,000
- Beacon Hill Transportation Plan implementation - \$89,000
- Stairs/completion of pathway connection of Summit Park to Blackwood Street - \$19,000
- Planning/design work for future David Foster Way connections (walkway connection between the Johnson Street Bridge and the Janion development, and a proposed bridge connection at Raymur Point/Heron Cove/Fisherman's Wharf) - \$250,000

Active transportation projects contemplated for 2015 include mid-block crosswalks in the 800 block Yates Street and 500 block Fisgard Street, and upgrading the crosswalk at Finlayson/Yew. Bicycle Master Plan consultation work currently underway will help inform what cycling priority projects should be advanced next year. Projects could include expanding the scope of CRD improvements being planned at the Esquimalt Road/E&N Rail Trail intersection, extending bike lanes being installed on Cook Street in 2014, and starting work on the Pandora Avenue cycle track.

Recommendation

That Council receive this report for information.



Active Transportation Projects - 2014

- Active Transportation Capital Projects
- Arterial
- Collector
- Downtown Streets
- Local
- City Boundary



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 10N
 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 Map File: ActiveTransPrj170414 04/17/2014



0 500 1,000 Metres