

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: 2015 April 27

FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

FILE: 38000 20
Ref: Traffic Safety

SUBJECT: MARINE DR AT NELSON AVE

PURPOSE: To recommend the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Marine Dr and Nelson Ave.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the Committee recommend to Council the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Marine Dr and Nelson Ave at an estimated cost of \$240,000 funded from the 2015 Capital Budget (Traffic Signals EMF.0041).

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

Staff has been monitoring the intersection of Marine Dr and Nelson Ave over several years after receiving public feedback about increasing traffic congestion at that location. Both streets are classified as Major Collector –Secondary roadways under the Burnaby Transportation Plan. While traffic volumes along Marine Dr have remained relatively consistent over the years, they have been increasing along Nelson Ave. The intersection was recently reviewed again to determine the need for any changes.

2.0 DISCUSSION

The intersection of Marine Dr and Nelson Ave is currently controlled by 4-way stop signs as shown in Figure 1. This is similar to other nearby intersections along Marine Dr at Patterson Ave and at Royal Oak Ave. As previously noted, traffic volumes along Marine Drive has remained consistent at about 10-12,000 vehicles per day over the last 10-20 years. On the other hand, traffic volumes along Nelson Ave have doubled to about 10,000 vehicles per day since the mid 1990's. Part of this can be attributed to the general growth of the City, and to the signalization of Marine Way and Nelson Ave in 2008.

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The most recent traffic signal warrant analysis showed that the installation of a traffic signal at the Marine Dr and Nelson Ave would be appropriate given the current traffic conditions. A full traffic signal would help to alleviate the long queues that develop during peak periods because it is more efficient at moving traffic through the intersection compared to 4-way stop signs. It should also help to address the high number of collisions at the intersection by more clearly assigning the right-of-way. Within the last five years (2009-2013) there was an average of about 16 collisions per year which is double of what is found in other similar intersections controlled by 4-way stop signs. The majority of these collisions were rear-ends, and there were no reported collisions involving pedestrians or cyclists.

3.0 CONCLUSION

A recent review of the intersection of Marine Dr and Nelson Ave showed that the installation of a traffic signal would help to better regulate traffic and reduce congestion, especially during peak periods when traffic volumes are higher. The signal is estimated to cost \$240,000 and funding is available in the 2015 Capital Budget (Traffic Signals EMF.0041). Funding contributions from ICBC's Road Improvement Program will also be sought to help offset costs to the City. Installation of the signal is anticipated to be completed by the end of the year.



Leon A. Gous, P. Eng. MBA
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

EJ/DL/ac

Attachment

Copied to: City Manager
Director of Planning and Building
Director of Finance

