

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: 2018 January 04

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

FILE: 1750 20
Reference: BAAC

SUBJECT: BURNABY ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – CAPITAL BYLAW
FUNDING REQUEST AND OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

PURPOSE: To request a Capital Reserve Fund Bylaw to finance the 2018 Access Improvements Program and to provide a summary of recent Burnaby Access Advisory Committee activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** the Financial Management Committee recommend Council authorize the City Solicitor to bring forward a Capital Reserve Fund Bylaw in the amount of \$82,000 to finance the access improvement projects at City facilities as outlined in Section 3.0 of this report.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Sustainable City Advisory Committee for information.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Burnaby Access Advisory Committee (BAAC) was established in 1988 to provide advice and direction to the Planning and Building Department on access and inclusion issues. The Group is comprised of Burnaby residents, as well as staff from a number of City Departments (Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services; Human Resources; Engineering), Burnaby Public Library, and the Fraser Health Authority. Some citizen members of BAAC are also members of organizations representing persons with disabilities, but they do not formally represent these organizations on the Committee. Planning staff coordinate the Committee's regular meetings and facilitate members' participation in, and input on, City initiatives.

This report requests that a Capital Reserves Bylaw be brought forward to finance the 2018 Access Improvements Program at City facilities, as outlined in Section 3.0 of this report, and provides a description of BAAC's recent activities.

2.0 POLICY SECTION

The 2018 Access Improvement Program is aligned with the City of Burnaby's Corporate Strategic Plan by supporting the following goals and sub-goals of the Plan:

- An 'Inclusive Community',
 - 'Ensure City services fully meet the needs of our dynamic community'.
- A 'Healthy Community',
 - 'Encourage opportunities for healthy living and well-being'.
- A 'Dynamic Community',
 - 'Build and maintain City facilities and infrastructure that meets the needs of our growing community'.

3.0 2018 ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

On an annual basis, funds are included in the Planning and Building Department's Capital Budget to finance access and inclusion improvements in City facilities. The following items have been identified by staff as priorities for 2018. BAAC members were consulted and provided input on the proposed improvements. The total proposed budget for improvements is \$82,000.

Shadbolt Centre for the Arts

An automatic door opener will be installed at the universal/accessible washroom door in the west end second level of the Shadbolt Centre, beside studio 207. At the moment, the only accessible washrooms are those on the main floor of the building.

Tommy Douglas Library

An automatic door opener will be installed at the branch's universal/accessible washroom. Currently the washroom cannot be used independently and staff are required to assist patrons in opening and closing the door.

Bonsor Recreation Complex

An automatic door opener will be installed for the main floor men's and women's washrooms. Currently the doors are propped open and, as they are located in a high traffic area, this impacts washroom privacy.

Swangard Stadium

An automatic door opener will be installed for the men's and women's washrooms. Currently the doors are propped open and, as they are located in a high traffic area, this impacts washroom privacy.

Bill Copeland Arena and Kensington Complex Arena

Renovations, including ramps to provide access to widened areas of the stands, will be provided at the Bill Copeland and Kensington Complex Arenas to allow accessible viewing areas.

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Burnaby Lake Sports Centre West

Provision of accessible sinks (e.g. paddle style handles) in the change rooms and washrooms at Burnaby Lake Sports Centre West.

Edmonds Community Centre

The accessible customer service front desk segment at Edmonds Community Centre will be enhanced. Currently, the accessible segment of the front customer service desk is not configured properly to provide service to patrons with disabilities.

Capital allocation for these projects has been included for consideration in the 2018 - 2022 Financial Plan that is under preparation. Upon approval of this funding request by Council, these expenditures will be included in the 2018 – 2022 Financial Plan. Sufficient Capital Reserve Funds are available to finance the capital project outlined in this report.

4.0 OVERVIEW OF RECENT ACTIVITIES

In 2017, BAAC members participated in, or provided input on, a number of City initiatives.

4.1 Committee Terms of Reference

To recognize the thirtieth year of the Committee, the Committee structure was refreshed with a formalized Terms of Reference. In addition, as part of this process, membership of the Committee was augmented as additional Burnaby residents with a wide range of disability perspectives (e.g. autism) began participating.

4.2 2017 Access Improvements in City Facilities

The following items were completed under a \$75,573.83 Capital allocation provided in 2017.

Edmonds Community Centre

Two projects were completed at the Edmonds Community Centre to improve accessibility. An automatic door opener was installed at the accessible washroom on the main floor of the Centre. The Centre also purchased a stainless steel gurney to assist with transferring patrons with mobility issues into the Fred Randall Pool area.

Shadbolt Centre of the Arts

The Shadbolt Centre of the Arts installed automatic doors on the entrances to the washrooms at the south end of the building.

Bob Prittie Library

The large and small study rooms on the second floor of Bob Prittie Library are being renovated to increase the size and improve the configuration of the rooms. These renovations will improve the accessibility of these high demand spaces, particularly for larger mobility devices (e.g. scooters).

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Willingdon Heights Community Centre

The pathway from the accessible parking spaces at the Willingdon Heights Community Centre's parking lot to the Centre's main entrance has been improved, including widening and levelling of the path.

Burnaby Lakes Sports Complex West

Accessibility upgrades to the sinks in multiple change rooms at the Burnaby Lakes Sports Complex West were completed.

4.3 Community Assessment

In 2017 September, the Access Advisory Committee members participated in an assessment of the accessibility elements of the Town Centre Standards. The design standards provide clear requirements for the development of both public and private street fronts within the City's four Town Centers (Edmonds, Lougheed, Brentwood and Metrotown).

On 2017 September 28, Committee members, and other interested members of the public with disabilities, joined City staff (Planning, Engineering) in assessing the Town Centre Standard 'example' section that has been constructed on the south side of Lougheed between Rosser Avenue and Willingdon Avenue.

Participants provided practical and helpful feedback on accessibility features and identified issues that will be used to inform the most recent iteration of the Town Centre Standards. Identified issues included additional marking stencils on area routes to highlight use, and the extension of scoring on curb ramps to cover the whole curb surface.

4.4 Inclusive Customer Service Training

BAAC members continue to support staff with the integration of accessible and inclusive customer service content, which is included in staff customer service training courses.

4.5 Input into Major City Plans and Developments

In Fall 2017, BAAC received a presentation by City staff on the Burnaby Transportation Plan Update. The presentation focused on the accessibility theme included in Phase 1 of the update process. Through their discussions with staff, Committee members provided valuable insights on transportation related accessibility issues from a user's perspective.

As well, in 2017 November, BAAC members provided input on the vision and conceptual design for the new arena planned for south Burnaby.

4.6 Pedestrian Realm Improvements

BAAC members have continued to identify, as appropriate, needed curb cuts, audible pedestrian traffic signals, sidewalk improvements, and other access related street scape improvements.

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5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Since its establishment 30 years ago, BAAC has played an important role providing valuable advice and recommendations to the City regarding accessibility and inclusion issues. With this support, the City continues to enhance accessibility of its facilities and inclusion in services for all Burnaby residents. In 2017, this included accessibility and inclusion improvements at City facilities in each of Burnaby's four quadrants.

For 2018, a list of prioritized access improvements is proposed at a broad cross-section of City facilities. As such, it is recommended that the Financial Management Committee recommend Council authorize the City Solicitor to bring forward a Capital Reserve Fund Bylaw in the amount of \$82,000 to finance the accessibility improvement projects at City facilities, as outlined in Section 3.0 of this report. As well, it is recommended that a copy of this report be forwarded to the Sustainable City Advisory Committee for information.


Lou Pelletier, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

RM:sa/sla

cc: City Manager
Director Corporate Services
Director Engineering
Director Finance
Director Public Safety and Community Services
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Chief Librarian
City Solicitor
City Clerk