

**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**DATE:** 2019 February 13

**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 2019 Access Improvements Program and to provide a summary of recent Burnaby Access Advisory Committee activities.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** the Financial Management Committee recommend that Council authorize the City Solicitor to bring forward a Capital Reserve Fund Bylaw in the amount of \$81,200 to finance the access improvement projects at City facilities as outlined in Section 3.0 of this report.
2. **THAT** the Committee recommend Council to authorize the allocation of \$500 from the 2019 Boards, Committees and Commissions budget to the City of Burnaby Access Advisory Committee, as a sub-committee of the Environment and Social Planning Committee, in order to provide access supports as needed for Committee members, as detailed in Section 5.0 of this report.
3. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Environment and Social Planning 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 2019 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 2019 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 2019 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 2019. BAAC members were consulted and provided input on the proposed improvements. The total proposed capital budget for improvements in 2019 is \$81,200.

### **Bonsor Recreation Complex**

Minor renovations to washrooms, showers and change-rooms will be undertaken to improve accessibility. This work includes lowering portions of sink counters, installing hand-held showers, and most notably, constructing an accessible changing stall in the main-floor men's change room, where no such option is currently present.

### **Edmonds Community Resource Centre**

This City-owned facility provides low-cost operating space to non-profit organizations active in the Burnaby community. Many of the patrons have enhanced access requirements. As such, minor renovations to the washrooms will be completed, as well as the fitting of push buttons for automatic doors, and the installation of a visual fire alarm on the upper level (where the Deaf Children's Society of BC has offices).

### **Burnaby Lake Clubhouse**

Minor renovations to the public change rooms will be completed to improve accessibility. This includes creating an accessible washroom stall, and reconfiguring the showers (e.g. installation of shower seat) to enhance access for all users.

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These expenditures will be included in the 2019 – 2023 Provisional Financial Plan and sufficient Capital Reserve Funds are available to finance the capital projects outlined in this report.

#### **4.0 OVERVIEW OF RECENT ACTIVITIES**

In 2018, BAAC members participated in, or provided input on, a number of City initiatives.

##### **4.1 2018 Access Improvements in City Facilities**

The following items were completed under an \$82,000 Capital allocation provided in 2018.

###### Shadbolt Centre for the Arts

An automatic door opener was installed on the universal/accessible washroom door in the west end second level of the Shadbolt Centre, beside studio 207.

###### Tommy Douglas Library

An automatic door opener was installed on the branch's universal washroom door.

###### Bonsor Recreation Complex

An automatic door opener was installed on the main floor men's and women's washrooms.

###### Swangard Stadium

An automatic door opener was installed on the men's and women's washrooms.

###### Kensington Complex Arena

An improved entrance ramp was installed, improving access to the main lobby and ice-level viewing area.

###### Bill Copeland Arena

Improvements to the accessible viewing area were installed, as well as push buttons for automatic door openers on the accessible washrooms.

###### Burnaby Lake Sports Centre West

Provision of accessible sinks levers in the change rooms and washrooms at Burnaby Lake Sports Centre West.

###### Willingdon Community Centre

Replacement of main accessible entrance doorway, as the previous had outlasted its functional lifespan.

###### Edmonds Community Centre

Replacement of adaptive equipment – a lift for the pool area, and an adaptive strength-training and weight machine for the gym.

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## **4.2 Community Education Event**

In recognition of Access Awareness Day, a Provincially recognized day that raises awareness of access and inclusion issues, the Committee worked with BC Blind Sports to host an inclusive sports training opportunity for grade 4/5/6 students at Lochdale and Windsor elementary schools. Staff from BC Blind Sports led interactive goalball (a version of soccer) lessons with the students so they could experientially learn about the experiences of those who are blind or who have low vision. The lessons were well received by both students and teachers.

## **4.3 Input into 2018 Election Accessibility Planning**

Committee members worked with Burnaby Election Office staff to ensure accessibility provisions were fully considered as part of the 2018 election. This included additional access improvements at City-owned voting locations (e.g. replacement of sliding door at Willingdon Community Centre), and input on other provisions such as ‘curb side voting’ which allows voters to vote in their cars or outside the venue if accessibility reasons prevent them from entering the polling station.

## **4.4 Pedestrian Realm Improvements**

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

## **5.0 ACCESS SUPPORTS**

The Burnaby Access Advisory Committee typically meets 3-4 times a year. From time-to-time citizen members of the BAAC require additional access supports in order to attend and participate in meetings. For example, this includes the provision of sign language interpreters for committee members who are Deaf, and the arranging of accessible taxis for individuals who are unable to drive or utilize public transit options such as HandyDART, due to the nature of the disability they live with. As such, in order to ensure BAAC members are able to fully participate in meetings, it is recommended that \$500 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions budget be allocated to the Committee.

## **6.0 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.

For 2019, 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

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that Council authorize the City Solicitor to bring forward a Capital Reserve Fund Bylaw in the amount of \$81,200 to finance the accessibility improvement projects at City facilities, as outlined in Section 3.0 of this report. As well, it is requested that the Committee recommend Council to authorize the allocation of \$500 from the 2019 Boards, Committees and Commissions budget to the City of Burnaby Access Advisory Committee, as a sub-committee of the Environment and Social Planning Committee in order to provide access supports as needed for Committee members, as detailed in Section 5.0 of this report. Finally, it is recommended that a copy of this report be forwarded to the Environment and Social Planning Committee for information.

  
Lou Pelletier, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

RM:sa

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