

TO: MAYOR & COUNCIL
FROM: GENERAL MANAGER ENGINEERING
SUBJECT: **NORTH BURNABY TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY**
PURPOSE: To present the North Burnaby Traffic Calming Study for information and referral to the Transportation Committee for review and recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report prepared by ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd. titled "North Burnaby Traffic Calming Study Report" dated December 2022 be received for information; and

THAT the report titled "North Burnaby Traffic Calming Study" dated August 28, 2023, be **REFERRED** to the next Transportation Committee meeting in 2023.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS

I concur with the recommendation of the General Manager Engineering.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The subject study aligns with the vision, goals and targets as described in *Connecting Burnaby*, Burnaby's Transportation Plan.

2.0 BACKGROUND

In response to feedback from the community around potential safety and traffic concerns with vulnerable road users (pedestrians and cyclists), the city in 2022 retained ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd. to conduct a traffic calming study for the North Burnaby area. The study identified concerns and potential mitigation measures based on technical reviews of existing road designs, road grades, traffic control and volumes, speed limits, on-street parking, transit operations, and pedestrian and cycling facilities. The study was completed in December 2022.

To provide the public and Council an opportunity to thoroughly review and provide recommendations on the study, Council is requested to refer the study (**Attachment 1**) to the Transportation Advisory Committee at the next available opportunity.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

The technical study has been completed, and Staff, taking into account public input within the realm of technical options, has selected short and long-term (draft) recommendations.

3.1. Short-Term Recommendations

- a. Empire Drive: a local collector road. Short-term recommendations include curb extensions at key intersections and roadway upgrades to include new curb and gutter, and sidewalks on the north side of Empire Drive with formalized street parking. Hythe Avenue and Pandora Street will be redesigned with the closure of redundant streets to normalize the intersections and simplify traffic operations to improve pedestrian crossing safety (see **Attachment 2**)
- b. Fell Avenue between Hastings Street and Pandora Street: a local residential street. Recommendations focus on a series of speed humps to reduce vehicular speeds and discourage cut-through traffic.

3.2. Long-Term Recommendations

- a. Roadway upgrades along key corridors including Dundas Street, Cambridge Street, Pandora Street, and Gamma Avenue (see **Attachment 3**). Recommended improvements include new sidewalks and curb extensions at select intersections to facilitate pedestrian connectivity and improve crossing safety, while also narrowing the roadway to address vehicular speeds along steep road segments within the neighborhood. In addition to road upgrades along Pandora Street, the existing intersection at Pandora Street, Holdom Avenue, and Capitol Drive will be redesigned to conventional intersections to improve traffic operations flow and enhance safety for all modes of users.
- b. Fell Avenue is a local residential street with a collector road standard design (11.0m curb-to-curb width) and the long-term recommendation will include a full roadway upgrade to reduce the pavement width to meet the current local roadway width, 8.5m curb-to-curb.
- c. Additional long-term recommendations were also identified along Willingdon Avenue and Albert Street, which will be implemented through the planned Confederation Park redevelopment project. The recommendations will include new curb extensions, formalized curbside parking, and the extension of the eastern multi-use pathway (MUP) along Willingdon Avenue from Hastings Street to Penzance Drive. The future Willingdon Avenue and Albert Street intersection will also be upgraded for a full traffic signal as part of the redevelopment.

In October 2021, temporary road barriers were installed along Penzance Drive at Beta Avenue, the laneway, and Gamma Avenue. The City installed the road barriers as a pilot project to address short-cutting traffic through the neighborhood. Based on staff's technical review, the recommendation for Penzance Drive is to formalize the road

closure at Gamma Avenue while maintaining emergency vehicle access (see **Attachment 4**). A vehicle turnaround space will be provided on Gamma Avenue at the end of the road. The laneway access at Penzance Drive will be opened to facilitate service vehicles such as garbage and recycling collection. Finally, the intersection of Beta Avenue and Penzance Drive will be restricted to right-in only traffic from Penzance Drive. This recommendation reduces traffic conflicts on a skewed intersection while also maintaining some level of vehicle access to Penzance Drive.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Public engagements were conducted throughout the study project. Opportunities for resident feedback were provided through online surveys and two local pop-up engagement events. Following the completion of the study in March 2023, the study scope and recommendations were shared on the project website. Staff continued to meet with local community members for additional engagement including attending a neighbourhood meeting in May 2023. Members of the public are welcome to engage further with the process through the Transportation Advisory Committee, pending Council's referral to the next available meeting.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,

Jozsef Dioszeghy, P. Eng., General Manager Engineering

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – North Burnaby Traffic Calming Study Report
- Attachment 2 – Empire Drive Short-Term Recommendations
- Attachment 3 – Long-Term Recommendations
- Attachment 4 – Penzance Drive Recommendations

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Kathy Ho, P. Eng., Senior Manager, Transportation, and reviewed by Fred Lin, P. Eng., Senior Manager Transportation.