

TO: TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
FROM: GENERAL MANAGER ENGINEERING
SUBJECT: **BURNABY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRAFFIC AND SAFETY STUDY UPDATE**
PURPOSE: To present an update on the Burnaby Elementary School Traffic and Safety Study.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report titled “Burnaby Elementary School Traffic and Safety Study Update” dated November 22, 2023, be received for information.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The Burnaby Elementary School Traffic and Safety Study supports the City of Burnaby’s Corporate Strategic Plan and goals for a safe, connected, healthy, and dynamic community. The study is also aligned with Council-adopted policies, plans, and strategies within Burnaby’s Transportation Plan that supports a sustainable, safe, and accessible transportation system.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The prevalence of multimodal activities that occur in the vicinity of elementary schools, particularly around school pick-up and drop-off periods, can create potential safety issues and conflicts between vulnerable road users, including parents and students and vehicle drivers. The City initiated the Burnaby Elementary School Traffic and Safety Study in 2022 to review existing traffic conditions and to identify improvement measures to address operational and safety concerns within the vicinity of each school. A total of 43 elementary schools (41 public and 2 private) was part of this review. The study included on-site observations and a review of current traffic volumes and historical ICBC collision data to help understand existing vehicle and pedestrian traffic and/or conflicts. As part of this study, school principals, Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) members, and school crossing guards at each elementary school were also engaged for further inputs to the project team.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

The study has been completed, and staff, considering the technical data and public input gathered, have identified several potential traffic measures to improve school safety and operations.

3.1. Study Recommendations

The study recommendations align with the City’s Traffic and Speed Management Policy and will help address the unique issues for each respective elementary school. An overview of the transportation improvements measures is provided in the following **Table 1** below.

Table 1: Recommended Transportation Improvement Measures

Improvement Measures	Examples
New Pedestrian Crossing Facilities	New crossing opportunities at intersections and locations that are warranted.
Existing Pedestrian Crossing Improvements	Crosswalk restriping, crosswalk upgrades, curb letdowns, new signalization, signal timing changes, and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) sequence updates
Traffic Calming	Raised crosswalk, curb extension locations, speed humps, and speed reader boards
Sidewalk/Roadway Improvements	Improving the condition of existing sidewalks and roadways
Streetlighting	New streetlights through technical analysis
Signage	Standardizing and designating pick-up/drop-off (PUDO) locations, signage location changes, new traffic operation signs, and new curbside regulations
Other	Including flex delineators along curbs, trimming vegetation to improve sightlines, and mountable roundabouts.

A methodology using injury-involved collisions through ICBC collision data (2010-2020) was developed to prioritize all improvements implemented at each school location. The overall implementation as detailed in **Attachment 1**, includes five phases with approximately ten elementary schools per phase. Funding for all phases is integrated in the Transportation 5-year capital plan program and includes both short-term and long-term recommendations for each school. The recommended improvements will be completed on a rolling basis. Further details on the timeline are provided in **Attachment 2**.

3.2. Current Progress

Phase 1 short-term improvements included the top ten priority elementary schools and have been completed during the summer of 2023 through in-house design and construction. Phase 1 long-term improvements require further detailed design and are

expected to be implemented in 2024 - 2025. City staff is currently reviewing and finalizing the design for the remaining phases.

3.3. Monitoring

Following the implementation of the recommended traffic and safety improvement measures, the City will monitor the impacts, and reassess the opportunity for future improvements or design modifications, if needed.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

School principals, Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) members, and school crossing guards at each elementary school were engaged during the study to better understand existing safety challenges, identify opportunities for improvements, and develop potential mitigation measures. The recommended improvements and phased implementation approach (**Attachment 1**) and the proposed recommendations for the Phase 1 elementary schools (**Attachment 2**) was shared with the School District for reference in Spring 2023.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The proposed short-term and long-term improvements from this study for all phases of implementation have been included in the Transportation 5-year capital plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Jozsef Dioszeghy, P.Eng., General Manager Engineering

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Recommended Improvement Summary and Phasing
- Attachment 2 – Proposed Phasing Timeline

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

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