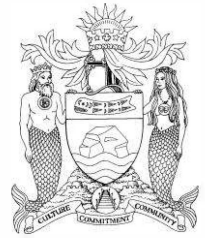


**THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF WHITE ROCK
CORPORATE REPORT**



DATE: May 13, 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Jim Gordon, P.Eng., Director, Engineering and Municipal Operations

SUBJECT: Pier Accessibility Improvement Options

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT Council can:

1. Approve funding of up to \$115K for the installation of a semi-permanent mat to improve accessibility on the Pier and direct staff to issue a Request for Proposals for a semi-permanent mat, evaluate proposals, and report to Council; or
2. Direct staff to continue researching grant opportunities for Pier accessibility improvements and to include a funding request for consideration during 2025 Financial Plan discussions; or
3. Direct staff to focus on other accessibility improvements.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On April 23, 2024, the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) discussed different options to improve accessibility on the White Rock Pier (Pier). The report, titled “White Rock Pier Accessibility Update” (Appendix A) provided background information that the AAC considered along with information provided by AAC members and the public.

It was concluded by the AAC that a semi-permanent mat option six to six and half feet wide would be preferred over permanent options as the mat could be lifted for Pier plank repairs and repurposed after the Pier is reconstructed. Committee members and the public noted successful installations of various mat options.

The AAC recommended that Council approve funding of up to \$115K for the project.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE DIRECTION

Motion # & Meeting Date	Motion Details
2024-054 February 12, 2024	That Council: Directs staff to prepare a comprehensive report detailing the feasibility, costs, and maintenance requirements associated with the installation of an accessible mat at the Pier, including funding options, and refers this report to the Accessibility Committee for comments.

2024-001 April 23, 2024	THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends that Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• direct staff to explore semi-permanent, 6- to 6.5-foot-wide mat options, subject to approval by the Committee; and,• approve funding of up to \$115,000 for this project.
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INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

On April 23, 2024 the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) discussed different options to improve accessibility on the White Rock Pier (Pier). The report titled “White Rock Pier Accessibility Update” (Appendix A) provided background information along with information provided by AAC members and the public.

It was concluded by the AAC that a semi-permanent mat option six to six and half feet wide would be preferred over permanent options as the mat could be lifted for Pier plank repairs and repurposed after the Pier is reconstructed. Funding of up to \$115K is needed for the project to proceed.

Next Steps

Following consideration of options Council may:

1. approve funding of up to \$115K for the installation of a semi-permanent mat to improve accessibility on the Pier and direct staff to issue a Request for Proposals for a semi-permanent mat, evaluate the proposals, and report to Council or,
2. direct staff to continue researching grant opportunities for Pier accessibility improvements and to include a funding request for consideration during 2025 Financial Plan discussions or,
3. direct staff to focus on other accessibility improvements.

If Council approves moving forward with a Pier mat installation, several items need to be addressed. These include:

1. Funding of up to \$115K Required – AAC committee members and the public in attendance at the meeting were not aware of any funding source for the project.
2. Pier Heritage – Council will need to consider the Pier designation as a Municipal Heritage Site and approve an installation consistent with the heritage designation (Appendix B).
3. Mat Location – Consideration will need to be given to benches, plaques and other potential impediments to a mat.
4. Request for Proposals (RFP) – If funding is approved, staff will issue an RFP
5. Evaluation of Proposals – Staff need to evaluate the proposals including an onsite demonstration and report to Council
6. Council Approval of Installation – Council will need to consider the heritage implications of a Pier mat installation and approve the installation by resolution.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding of approximately \$115K would be needed for mat purchase and installation. There may be additional annual operating costs related to temporarily removing the mat for Pier plank

replacements and possibly some events. These costs are unknown at this time and will be reported back to Council in the event that they cannot be absorbed by existing operating budgets.

The longevity of the mats is not known; however, most products will come with a 5-year limited warranty and it is expected that there would be periodic replacement costs at the end of an accessibility mats service life should Council endorse moving forward with the installation.

COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Staff will continue to engage with residents and through the AAC.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS

Engineering and Municipal Operations staff will continue to engage with Recreation and Culture staff with respect to cultural and special event implications.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Improving accessibility to the Pier is in alignment with the Community and Waterfront Priorities. The Community Priority identifies that we foster a livable city with connected residents enjoying distinctive places and activities and the Waterfront Priority identifies that the City support a prosperous and vibrant waterfront.

OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES

The following options are available for Council's consideration:

1. approve funding of up to \$115K for the installation of a semi-permanent mat to improve accessibility on the Pier and direct staff to issue a Request for Proposals for a semi-permanent mat, evaluate the proposals, and report to Council,
2. direct staff to continue researching grant opportunities for Pier accessibility improvements and to include a funding request for consideration during 2025 Financial Plan discussions or,
3. direct staff to focus on other accessibility improvements.

If Council selects option 1, there is the outcome of initial capital costs plus ongoing maintenance costs. Additionally, there is risk that an installation would affect some special events and Pier aesthetics. However, Pier access would be improved for all users.

If Council selects either option 2 or 3, there is the outcome that the concerns about improving accessible access to the Pier are not addressed in the most timely manner.

CONCLUSION

On April 23, 2024 the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) discussed different options to improve accessibility on the White Rock Pier (Pier).

The AAC concluded that a semi-permanent mat option six to six and half feet wide would be preferred over permanent options as the mat could be lifted for Pier plank repairs and repurposed after the Pier is reconstructed. Members of the AAC did not support the concept of fund raising for the mat.

The AAC recommended that Council provide funding of up to \$115K.

Council may decide to provide funding immediately, defer until 2025 Financial Plan discussions or direct staff to focus on other accessibility improvements.

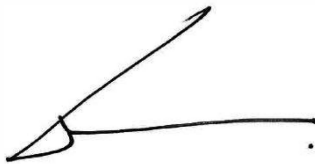
Respectfully submitted,



Jim Gordon, P.Eng.,
Director, Engineering and Municipal Operations

Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer

This corporate report is provided for information purposes and Council's direction to staff.



Guillermo Ferrero
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A: Accessibility Advisory Committee Pier Accessibility Update Report
Appendix B: Pier Heritage Bylaw No. 854

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF WHITE ROCK
CORPORATE REPORT**



DATE: April 23, 2024

TO: Accessibility Advisory Committee

FROM: Corrine Haer, P.Eng., Manager, Engineering

SUBJECT: White Rock Pier Accessibility Update

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends that Council direct staff to continue researching grant opportunities for Pier accessibility improvements and to include a funding request for consideration during 2025 Financial Plan discussions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to update and receive feedback from the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) on different mat options to improve accessibility on the White Rock Pier (Pier). It is intended that this feedback will help determine an appropriate scope of work for 2025 Financial Plan consideration.

INTRODUCTION

The main objective of the City's Accessibility Action Plan (Plan) is to recognize, prevent and eliminate accessibility obstacles that restrict the full participation of individuals with disabilities in daily activities in White Rock.

There are concerns that it is difficult to navigate strollers and wheelchairs on the Pier. Based on this concern from community members, and in alignment with the Plan, staff reviewed potential options to improve accessibility on the Pier and are seeking feedback from the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

ANALYSIS

Staff reviewed temporary and permanent accessible options as outlined in Table 1 and are seeking feedback from the AAC.

Table 1 – Accessible Options for the Pier

Option	Mat type	Installation details	Budgetary estimates
Mobi Mat (Appendix A)	Semi-permanent	- Comes in 5' or 6' widths - Must be nailed down to the Pier	\$70,000 - \$86,000

		- Comes in two colours (golden sand or blue jay) - Can be lit up	
AccessMat (Appendix B)	Semi-permanent	- Comes in 5' width - Fastened to the Pier	\$95,000
Beach Trax Access Mat (Appendix C)	Temporary	- Lightweight, each panel weighs 5lbs - 10 panels accordion fold to stack under 3" flat - Easy set up	\$85,000
Resurfacing half of the Pier (Appendix D)	Permanent	- Comes in any width - Comes in any design/colour - No risk of tripping hazard - Less ongoing maintenance	\$124,000

Other considerations that will need to be included in the scope of work include:

- Material delivery time frame
- Installation convenience
- Maintenance consideration
- Availability of extra parts
- Warranty
- Products resiliency to west coast climate
- Expected life span
- Width of mat
- Surface details
- Visual considerations
- Additional features (light up, etc)
- Additional accessibility considerations

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no funds currently identified for Pier accessibility upgrades. Although not yet identified, grant funding may be available.

A budget request for funding could be submitted for discussion as part of the Financial Plan process for 2025.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Improving accessibility to the Pier is in alignment with the Community and Waterfront Priorities. The Community Priority identifies that we foster a livable city with connected residents enjoying distinctive places and activities and the Waterfront Priority identifies that the City support a prosperous and vibrant waterfront.

OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES

The AAC could recommend to Council that staff focus on other accessibility issues; however, this would not address the needs of those wishing for Pier accessibility access.

CONCLUSION

Staff are seeking feedback from the Accessibility Advisory Committee on the potential accessible mat options presented in this corporate report to determine an appropriate scope of work to incorporate into the 2025 Financial Plan process.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by,



Corrine Haer, P.Eng.
Manager, Engineering

Jim Gordon, P.Eng.,
Director of Engineering & Municipal Operations

- Appendix A: Mobi Mat Example
- Appendix B: AccessMat Example
- Appendix C: Beach Trax Access Mat Example
- Appendix D: Permanent Resurfacing Example



Appendix B: AccessMat Example



Appendix C: Beach Trax Access Mat Example



Appendix D: Permanent Resurfacing Example



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WHITE ROCKBY-LAW NO. 854

A By-law to designate the
Pier as a Heritage Site.

WHEREAS pursuant to the provisions of Part III of the "Heritage Conservation Act" of the Province of British Columbia, the Council may, by By-law, designate a structure as a Municipal Heritage Site.

AND WHEREAS the 'Pier' is one of the oldest structures in the City of White Rock.

THEREFORE, the Council of The Corporation of the City of White Rock in open Meeting assembled, ENACTS as follows:

1. The structure known as the 'Pier' located at the southern most end of Martin Street, at Marine Drive, in the City of White Rock, is hereby designated as a Municipal Heritage Site.
2. No person shall demolish a structure or alter the facade or exterior of a structure designated as a Municipal Heritage Site under this by-law without the prior approval, by resolution, of the Council of the City of White Rock.
3. This by-law shall come into force and take effect from and after the date of the final adoption thereof.
4. This by-law may be cited for all purposes as "White Rock Heritage Structure (Pier) By-law, 1982, No. 854."

RECEIVED FIRST READING on the *13th* day of *April*, 1982.
 " SECOND " on the *13th* day of *April*, 1982.
 " THIRD " on the *13th* day of *April*, 1982.

RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY ADOPTED on the *26th* day of *April*, 1982.


MAYOR


CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR