

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



**DATE:** December 11, 2023

**TO:** Mayor and Council

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

**SUBJECT:** Five Corners Improvement Project – Public and Stakeholder Engagement

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**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

THAT Council receive the corporate report dated December 11, 2023, from the Manager of Engineering, titled “Five Corners Improvement Project – Public and Stakeholder Engagement” for consideration; and

1. Approve the public and stakeholder engagement plan outlined herein; and
  2. Direct staff to process and proceed with the public and stakeholder engagement.
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this corporate report is to update Council on the status of the Five Corners Improvement project. This project is a Council Strategic Priority and is identified and prioritized in the City's Integrated Transportation and Infrastructure Master Plan (ITIMP) to improve safety for pedestrians and vehicles, and to promote active transportation.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on BC Bid in May 2023, and a consultant was retained to start the conceptual design in September 2023. Public and stakeholder engagement is an essential component of the project, and a plan has been created to support the project development.

**INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

Five Corners is a symbolic location in the City of White Rock, referencing the convergence of Johnston Road, Buena Vista Avenue and Pacific Avenue. Located within the City's Town Centre, Five Corners is a vital destination node for shopping, dining, sightseeing, and gathering for festivals and events drawing visitors from across the community and lower mainland. This node also provides important transportation links to the City's various key destinations: Uptown, East Beach, West Beach, the Pier, and the Promenade.

The Five Corners Improvement project will provide an opportunity to revitalize the vibrancy and functionality of Five Corners as the social, cultural, and commercial heart of the community by creating public space along with upgrading active transportation facilities and enhancing connectivity. Additionally, the intersection of Five Corners is part of Translink's Major Bikeway Network and has been identified as a greenway corridor to promote network connectivity.

Conceptual design options will be utilized to support the public and stakeholder engagement process to gather feedback on the project scope before recommending a preferred design for Council's approval.





the community's input and feedback is key to achieving a desirable outcome and delivering a successful project.

The communication plan has been integrated into the project, divided into three stages including the conceptual design phase (current), preliminary design phase (active engagement, gather input and feedback, compile and analyze and develop draft preliminary design report for Council's approval), and the final design report and next steps.

The following engagement strategies will be utilized throughout the preliminary design phase:

1. Story map to provide an accessible overview of the project
2. Dedicated project site on the Talk White Rock platform to seek public input and feedback
3. Community workshops and open houses
4. Engage key external stakeholder groups through focus group events

Staff recommend engagement with key external stakeholders and the public on the concept design options for Five Corners Improvement. Key stakeholders include:

- Adjacent residences
- Adjacent businesses
- White Rock Business Improvement Association
- Cyclists
- Commuters
- Tourists
- White Rock Elementary
- Metro Vancouver
- TransLink
- Emergency Services (RCMP, Fire, Ambulance)
- General Public

Staff will use the platform created through the public engagement process to provide the community with more detailed and timely information on the project's progress and updates.

The progress and results of public and stakeholder engagement and any updates to the Five Corners Improvements project will be presented to the Council in a future report for the Council's consideration.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The design for this project is included in the 2023 Financial Plan. As a result of the preliminary design phase, high level estimates will be provided and brought back to Council for consideration before moving forward to detailed design.

### **COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

A public engagement plan has been created and considerable thought has been given to mitigating the impact on affected businesses. Proactive, clear, and consistent communication throughout the preliminary design phase is essential. Communication efforts will include letters, emails, social media updates, open house engagements, focus group events, and advertising.

### **INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS**

Staff are working closely with Communications & Government Relations to leverage the City's existing social media/channels and available resources, such as Talk White Rock, Facebook, and Instagram to maximize public/stakeholder engagement effectiveness in a cost-effective way.

In addition, staff have coordinated internally with Recreation & Culture to explore and identify pertinent community events and activities to engage the public and focus groups to seek input and feedback.

### **IMPLICATIONS FOR TREE PRESERVATION AND TREE CANOPY ENHANCEMENT**

Staff will ensure existing trees within the corridor are protected, thereby enhancing and ensuring the sustainability of the City's urban forest and recognizing the environmental and esthetic benefits trees provide. Typical city tree management will follow the City's Tree Protection Bylaw No. 2407.

### **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

This project is a Council Strategic Priority project and is in alignment with the Infrastructure Strategic Priority that identifies that the City plan, build and maintain infrastructure to enhance quality of life and civic service delivery while mitigating and adapting to environmental impacts. Specifically, this project ensures future infrastructure resiliency by making decisions through a long-term lens per the City's Integrated Transportation and Infrastructure Master Plan.

### **OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES**

The following options are available for Council's consideration:

1. Not approve the project to proceed to public and stakeholder engagement. This may create misconception amongst residents and businesses about the intention of this project.

### **CONCLUSION**

As part of the implementation of the City's Integrated Transportation and Infrastructure Master Plan, this project aims to provide an opportunity to revitalize the vibrancy and functionality of Five Corners as the social, cultural, and commercial heart of the community by creating public space along with upgrading active transportation facilities and enhancing connectivity.

Public and stakeholder engagement will be essential to increase public awareness and knowledge and seek input and feedback in order to create a desirable urban space for the community. Staff seek Council approval to begin public and stakeholder engagement as outlined in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by,



Corrine Haer, P.Eng.  
Manager, Engineering

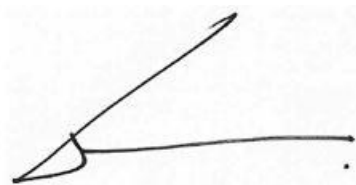


Jim Gordon, P.Eng.  
Director, Engineering & Municipal Operations

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**Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer**

I concur with the recommendation(s) of this corporate report.



Guillermo Ferrero  
Chief Administrative Officer