



# Corporate

NO: R098

# Report

COUNCIL DATE: May 13, 2002

<b>REGULAR</b>			
TO:	<b>Mayor &amp; Council</b>	DATE:	<b>May 8, 2002</b>
FROM:	<b>General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture</b>	FILE:	<b>6800-01</b>
SUBJECT:	<b>Infrastructure Grant – Learning and Discovery Centre</b>		

## RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Council pass a resolution establishing the Learning and Discovery Centre project as one of the City of Surrey's top three priorities along with the Water Metering and Energy Conservation Measures projects in relation to the Infrastructure Program funding application; and
2. That Council request an exemption to the cap of \$1.0 million per senior level of government in the "Other" category in relation to the Learning and Discovery Centre project.

## BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

In February 2001, Council adopted the recommendation of a joint report from the General Manager of Engineering and the General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture regarding the projects (and their relative priority) that would be submitted by the City to the Infrastructure Grant program under the "Green Infrastructure" category and under the "Other Projects" category. The following table summarizes these projects. The attached Appendix 1 provides a description of each of the listed projects.

<b>TABLE 1</b>		
<b>Proposed Priorities for Infrastructure Applications</b>		
<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Cost (\$m)</b>	<b>Local Share Funding Status</b>

<b>Green Infrastructure Projects</b>		
Water Metering Program	3.0	Funding available from utility
Energy conservation retrofits at City buildings	0.6	Funding available from current programs
Development of Sustainable Servicing Standards	0.1	Partial funding available from DCCs & Utility
East Newton Pump Station	2.0	Partial funding available from DCCs
Fleetwood Water Pressure Booster Station	3.0	Partial funding available from DCCs
Grey Creek Drainage Pump Station	1.0	Partial funding available from DCCs & Utility
<b>Other Projects</b>		
Scott Road safety improvements 99-103A Avenue	3.5	Partial funding available from DCCs
Inter Urban Heritage Rail Line Cloverdale-Sullivan	1.5	\$200,000 currently funded
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14.7 million</b>	

At the Regular Council meeting on March 25, 2002, Council considered Corporate Report No. R053 from the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture and adopted the recommendation of the report to include the Surrey Learning and Discovery Centre as the City's first priority in its application under "Other" category of the Infrastructure Grant Program.

Officials in the Economic Partnership Branch, Ministry of Competition, Science and Enterprise have since advised that:

- a) British Columbia is combining the "Green Infrastructure Project" and the "Other" categories under the Program in the evaluation process. This is not the case in other provinces where Federal-Provincial Infrastructure Grants for these different categories are considered separately based on the fact that Federal funding is clearly separated into the two categories.
- a) The Province will only review and give consideration to the top **three** priorities of a city, whatever the category. All other projects would not be reviewed.
- a) A cap of \$1.0 million per senior level of government had been placed on projects in the "Other" category. Cities would need to request an exemption by resolution to have additional funding considered.

The following is the recommended prioritization of the projects submitted by the City under the combined "Green Infrastructure/Other" category of projects. In consolidating the priority list, staff had particular difficulty in assigning a priority to the application for funding to assist the introduction of sustainable development standards for East Clayton. This project is of provincial and national importance with respect to reducing environmental impacts of new development and as such, could have significant value to society in general. However, from a strict City perspective, it is not the City's highest priority in terms of immediate benefit to the City's residents and businesses. The priority list was consolidated with this consideration in mind. However, the communication from the City to the Grant Program will reinforce the City's strong interest in seeking funding for this East Clayton initiative, despite the fact that it is now rated as the City's fourth priority.

<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Priority</b>
• Water Metering Program	1
• Energy Conservation Retrofits	2
• Learning and Discovery Centre	3
• East Clayton Drainage Standards	4
• Heritage Rail Revitalization	5
• East Newton Sanitary Pump Station	6
• Fleetwood Water Booster Station	7
• Gray Creek Pump Station	8
• Scott Road (96 Ave. to 103 A Ave.)	9

Council's resolution of March 25, 2002, included direction that the City's one-third share (being \$5.0 million) of the Learning and Discovery Centre project costs (i.e., \$15.0 million) would be placed in the 2003-2005 Capital Budget. The Friends of the Learning and Discovery Centre have set a fund raising target of \$1.0 million and are currently working toward that goal. If the Federal-Provincial Infrastructure Grant Program provides less than the requested amount of \$5.0 million per level of government, it is still feasible to phase the construction of the project. A budget of approximately \$10.0 million would be required, however, to construct the six theme exhibit galleries in the Museum, provide adequate storage and program spaces, and provide the Archives spaces required. Other components could be added in later stages or as partner funding becomes available.

## **CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that Council establish the Learning and Discovery Centre project as one of the City's top three priorities under the combined "Green Infrastructure/Other" category in the City's application to the Infrastructure Grant Program to ensure that this project receives consideration. In addition, it is recommended that Council adopt a resolution to request that the Learning and Discovery Centre project be exempted from the \$1.0 million cap per level of senior government under the Infrastructure Grant Program funding.

Don Hunter, General  
 Manager of Parks, Recreation  
 and Culture

Details of Proposed  
**Infrastructure Program Candidate Projects**

Water Metering Program \$3 million

The water metering program is a voluntary program to retrofit residential properties with water meters. This program is to encourage water conservation and shift City utility charges from flat rates to a fairer user-pay approach.

East Newton Sewer Pump Station \$1.5 million

This pump station will provide sanitary sewer service for the East Newton Business Park and the East Newton Neighbourhood Concept Plan area. The site for the pump station has been identified and the engineering design is underway.

Fleetwood Pressure Booster Pump Station (Water Distribution) \$3 million

The higher area of Fleetwood, in the vicinity of Fraser Highway and 154 Street, has been experiencing low water pressure during peak demand periods in the summer months. This low pressure is caused by the ever-increasing number of consumers within an area that is serviced by the Whalley water pumping system. This water distribution area now supports a population of some 135,000 people.

The 1978 Surrey Water Supply and Distribution Study identified the need to construct a water reservoir and a booster station at this location. An appropriate site location was identified and subsequently secured, for the purpose of siting these infrastructure facilities. It is proposed that initially the pump station would be constructed which would be followed up a few years later by the reservoir.

Heritage Rail Project \$1.5 million

The Interurban Electric Railway was the original transportation spine through Surrey and the Fraser Valley. With the advent of gasoline and diesel-powered buses, the service was discontinued. However, the right-of-way and railway tracks remain and several of the original electric-powered cars have been located and are available to a revitalized service. Revitalization of the service could provide public transportation utilizing hydro-electric power, a renewable resource, with zero emissions. It may also provide a venue for testing the feasibility of fuel cell technology in this application. The project is initially proposed to run from Cloverdale to Sullivan stations – a distance of 5.2 kilometres, with eventual service from Cloverdale to Brownsville Bar (at Fraser River) including six stations along the route with a total length of 19.2 kilometres.

Energy Conservation Retrofits of City Buildings \$600,000

Replace older rooftop HVAC units with higher efficiency units at various City buildings. Upgrade existing lighting to energy efficient T8 fluorescent operation at various City buildings. Expand the computer mechanical control systems at selected locations to improve operational efficiency. Replace older natural draft boilers with modern, more efficient, power-vented boiler systems at Newton Wave Pool and South Surrey Indoor Pool.

Development of Sustainable Development Standards \$100,000

The East Clayton NCP process established a set of overall sustainable development principles and concepts. To move forward to actual construction, a set of detailed engineering servicing standards based on the sustainable development concepts is required. This work will involve geotechnical investigations and detailed engineering analysis. We understand that both the Federal and Provincial governments are supportive of this work proceeding.

Scott Road Upgrading – Rail Crossing and 99 Avenue Intersection \$3.5 million

Scott Road currently exists as a four- to six-lane facility south of 96 Avenue and north of 103 Avenue, with the project section only at two lanes, with no left-turn channelization. There is a documented safety problem on this section of Scott Road, with three fatalities on this section over the last three years, as well as personal injury and property damage crashes. ICBC recognizes the magnitude of the problem and has indicated that they will consider some cost-sharing contribution.

Scott Road also forms a very critical link in the Major Road Network for Surrey and the region, carrying in excess of 28,000 vehicles per day, and is also part of the Surrey Truck Route Network. This section of Scott Road provides access to the industrial areas at the Pattullo Bridgehead, including Surrey Fraser Docks as well as to the Newton Industrial area, and as such is important for the economic vitality of the region. Scott Road also provides the main route for access from Newton and North Delta to the Scott Road Skytrain Station.

The project will include upgrading the railroad crossing at 99 Avenue, signalizing the 99 Avenue intersection and providing sidewalks on both side of Scott Road between 96 Avenue and 99 Avenue, significantly improving the sole access to the residential area west of Scott Road and providing a safe route to school that does not currently exist due to topographic constraints to the west of the site. A bridge over the GVS&DD trunk sewer at 102 Avenue will allow construction of a multi-use pathway under the bridge and storm sewer works will accommodate peak flow diversion for Scott Creek to enhance fisheries habitat.

Grey Creek Drainage Pump Station \$1 million

The Serpentine-Nicomekl Flood Control Strategy identified this pump station as a key component to control the frequent flooding near east of 152 Street and between the Serpentine and Nicomekl Rivers. This 1.5 m<sup>3</sup>/sec pump station will service agricultural, industrial and residential areas. This pump combined will provide the inter-river area with an integrated solution to water management issues that include: flooding of farm land, storm water management, and improved habitat for salmonids and other wildlife.