



REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: **Transit Priority Improvements in Langley**

File #: 5210.00

Doc #:

From: Hirod Gill
Manager of Engineering Services

Date: July 8, 2019

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1- THAT the following transit priority improvements be approved in the City of Langley:
 - A. A dedicated Business Access and Transit (BAT) lane be added:
 - i. Northbound on 203 Street, Fraser Hwy to Logan Avenue
 - ii. Eastbound on Logan Avenue, 203 Street to Glover Road
 - iii. Westbound on Fraser Hwy, 203 Street to 200 Street;
 - B. Removal of 6 parking spaces on north side of Fraser Hwy (west of 203 Street) to allow for the BAT lane; and
 - C. Changing traffic signal timing in several intersections along Fraser Highway corridor to allow for optimal traffic operations under the proposed transit priority Measures;
- 2- THAT staff coordinate with TransLink to finalize the design; and
- 3- THAT the Director of Engineering, Parks & Environment and the Corporate Officer are authorized to enter into a project implementation agreement with TransLink to implement the transit priority Improvement project at the City of Langley.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is to request Council approval of the proposed transit priority improvements and authorize staff to work with TransLink on the design and implementation of the project within the City boundaries.

POLICY:

None.

COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

The City and Township of Langley, together with the City of Surrey are among the fastest-growing communities in the Lower Mainland. Over the next 30 years, these municipalities are expected to welcome more than 400,000 new residents. As a result, improving rapid transit to connect Surrey to Langley is a regional priority.

As a precursor to the proposed Sky Train expansion to the City of Langley, transit priority Improvements are planned to support growing ridership demand and facilitate faster services for all buses and especially for the 502 and 503 bus lines.

The City of Surrey Council recently approved the proposed transit service improvements in Surrey on June 5, 2019, on the delivery of bus-only lanes, BAT lanes, and bus queue jump lanes on Fraser Hwy and King George Boulevard.

The proposed transit priority measures in the City of Langley include Fraser Highway, 200 Street to 203 Street, 203 Street, Fraser Hwy to Logan Avenue, and Logan Avenue, 203 Street to Glover Road.

As a part of this plan, the existing 503 bus route will be redesigned as an upgraded service with high frequencies, 9 minutes during peak times, and limited stops along Fraser Highway between Surrey Central and Langley Centre. Frequencies of every 20 to 30 minutes will be retained for Langley Centre to Aldergrove. The existing 502 bus routes will be maintained as a frequent local stop service between Surrey Central and Langley Centre, with frequencies of up to 12 minutes during peak.

The new service uses BAT lanes to increase the speed and reliability of buses between 200 Street and Glover Road within the Langley Centre area. BAT lanes are transit exclusive lanes where buses operate in an exclusive lane independent of general traffic. General traffic can use these lanes for accessing businesses or for turning movements only. The proposed traffic pattern changes are in attachment #1. Articulated buses with greater passenger capacities will also be added.

Six curbside parking spaces in the westbound direction of Fraser Hwy in front of 20257, 20259 and 20273 Fraser Highway on the west of 203 Street will be removed to accommodate the changes.

Traffic signal timing along the Fraser Highway corridor will also be optimized to speed up both buses and general traffic. Traffic modeling results suggest that optimizing signal timing will provide benefits to general traffic and as a result, travel times for all vehicles will be improved by 5%.

The transit priority measures will benefit nearly all bus routes in Langley City and Langley Township, including 55 buses per hour in peak times.

Public Engagement

Public and stakeholders engagement included two advertisements in the local newspaper, 119 letters to residents and business owners, a project web page, online feedback forms/questionnaires, one stakeholder info session, and one Langley City Council workshop.

The online feedback forms were available between June 3 to 10, 2019. The feedback results regarding the level of support for the proposed transit priority lanes showed that, out of 100 received responses, over 80% of the participants were either supportive or neutral.

A public information session was hosted at the Langley City Hall by the City and TransLink on June 6, 2019, where 19 residents attended.

Ongoing Collaboration with TransLink

Staff are working with TransLink to finalize the design and expect it to be complete this summer with implementation to take place in the fall of 2019.

The project design scope includes road markings, signage, optimization of signal timing and assessing the existing turning radius at 203 and Logan Avenue for bus turn movements.

Staff will oversee the implementation of the transit priority Improvements. As the City has agreed to implement the transit priority measures Translink requires that an agreement be signed between the two parties laying out the responsibilities of each party. TransLink will provide the design and pay all the implementation cost of the project.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications associated with this report, as the cost associated with implementing the transit priority Improvements will be fully funded by TransLink.

SUMMARY:

As a precursor to Skytrain Service to Langley City, Translink has approved funding to improve transit service and build ridership. The improved service includes priority bus lanes, increased bus services and improved speed and reliability for routes between Surrey Central to Langley Centre to Aldergrove. The City of Surrey Council has already approved the proposed transit service improvements in Surrey on June 5, 2019.

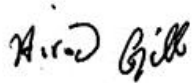
Given the service level improvements that these priority bus lines will bring to the City of Langley, staff recommend Council approve the following transit priority improvements:

- 1- A dedicated Business Access and Transit (BAT) lane be added:
 - i. Northbound on 203 Street, Fraser Hwy to Logan Avenue
 - ii. Eastbound on Logan Avenue, 203 Street to Glover Road
 - iii. Westbound on Fraser Hwy, 203 Street to 200 Street;
- 2- Removal of 6 parking spaces on the north side of Fraser Highway (west of 203 Street) to allow for the BAT lane; and
- 3- Changing traffic signal timing in several intersections along Fraser Highway corridor to allow for optimal traffic operations under the proposed transit priority Measures.

ALTERNATIVES:

That City Council revise or amend the recommendations contained in the report.

Respectfully Submitted,



Hirod Gill, P.Eng.
Manager of Engineering Services

Concurrence:



Rick Bomhof, P.Eng.
Director of Engineering, Parks & Environment

Attachment:

1. The proposed traffic pattern changes

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:

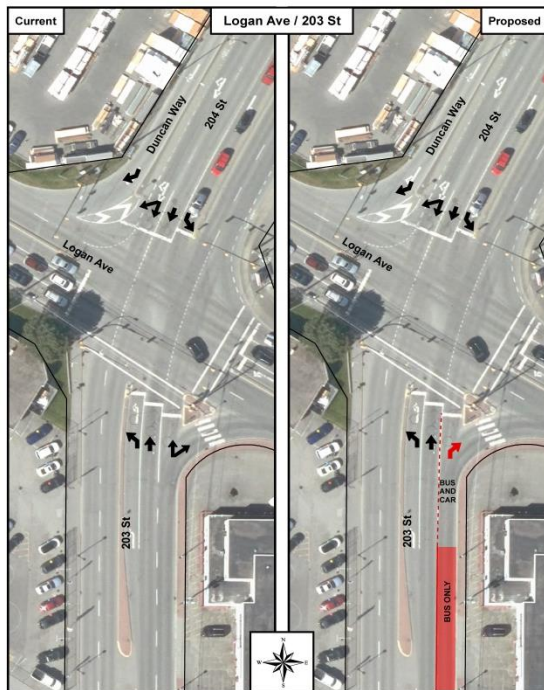
I support the recommendation.



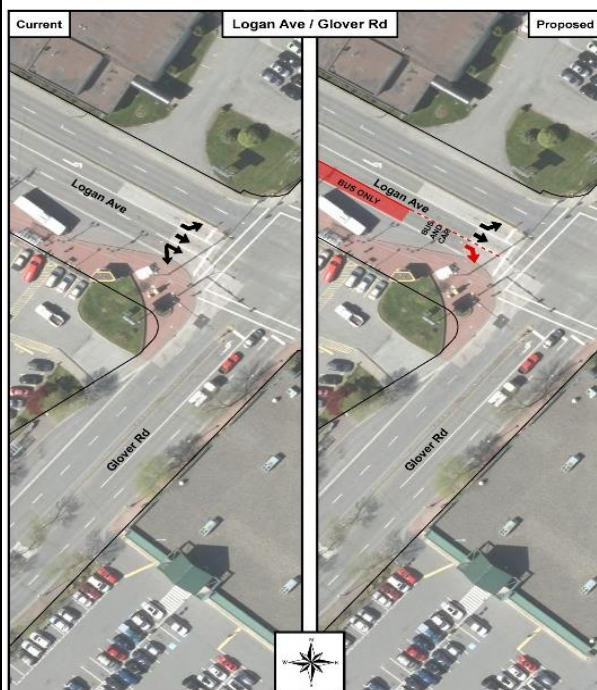
Francis Cheung, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment 1: Proposed traffic pattern changes.

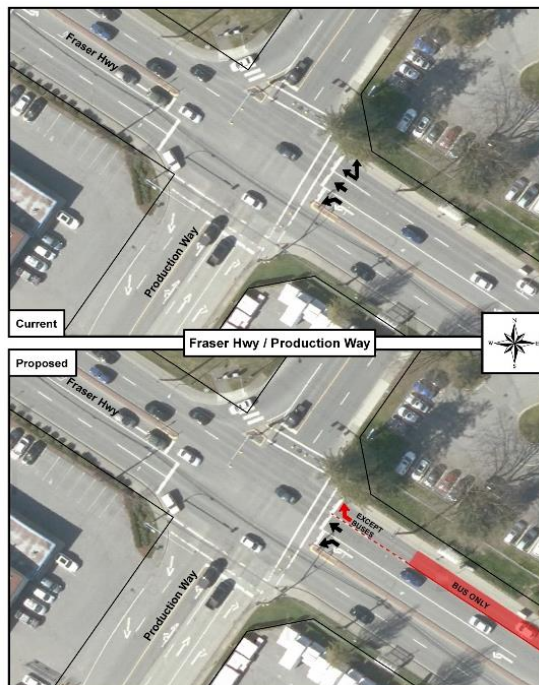
1. 203 St and Logan Ave



2. Logan Ave and Glover Rd



3. Fraser Hwy and Production Way



4. Parking Impacts at Fraser HWY (West of 203 St.)

