



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: Crosswalk on 208 Street at 45A Avenue – Project  
Cost Update

File #: 5210.00

Doc #:

From: Cameron Perkin, EIT  
Engineering Technologist

Date: November 2, 2020

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## RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information; and
2. THAT the implementation of a crosswalk on 208 Street at 45A Avenue not proceed at this time.

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## PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the planning and design for the proposed crosswalk on 208 Street at 45A Avenue.

## POLICY:

N/A.

## COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

### Background:

The City received requests in 2019 from three local residents to install a crosswalk on 208 Street approximately 100 metres south of 45A Avenue, where the City/Township boundary is located in the middle of the road. Being located at the boundary of these two municipalities, the crosswalk extends into both municipalities required approval of both municipalities and related maintenance overlaps. The City and Township staff did not support this request (see Figure below).



As an alternative, staff looked into installing a crosswalk with overhead yellow flashing beacons at the North side of 208 Street and 45A Avenue T-intersection, where the entire project lies within the City boundary and there are no driveways on either side of 208 Street. A site assessment showed that the presence of BC Hydro wires at the location of the overhead signal (see Figure below) could make the construction of overhead flashing lights more costly if the lines require relocation.



In a discussion with Council, staff was directed to report back to Council with the estimated cost of the project. Subsequent to this, the 2020 capital plan included a budget of \$120,000 which was thought to be sufficient to complete this project if Council approved it.

A Consulting Engineering firm was retained to provide a design and construction cost estimate for this project.

The initially proposed location of the crosswalk on the north side of the T-intersection needed to change, as the required crosswalk overhead flashers would have had conflicts with the BC Hydro's wires at that site.

A site assessment showed that moving the crosswalk further north to avoid the BC Hydro wires is not feasible, as it would have conflicts with private driveways or have sightline concerns due to the hill at 46 Avenue.

Further site assessment indicated the south side of 208 Street & 45A Avenue would be a more appropriate location for the crosswalk. This location will not have conflicts with the BC Hydro wires, will not have any sightline concerns as it is further away from the hill, and private driveways will not be impacted at this location.

### **Project Cost Estimate:**

To date, a 90% preliminary design and Class B cost estimate has been completed for the proposed crosswalk.

The design consists of a pedestrian activated crosswalk with overhead yellow flashing beacons and illuminated signage. The design includes tactile strips at both of the letdowns, "shark teeth" pavement markings, and an additional signage to be installed upstream of the crossing to heighten motorist awareness around the crossing.

The project's Class-B cost estimate is \$140,139, which includes 15% contingency.

The 2020 allocated budget for this project is \$120,000, of which \$17,060 was already spent to prepare a preliminary design for the project. This means an additional \$37,199 will be required to construct the crosswalk at this location.

The project cost was higher than staff's initial estimate due to the following reasons:

1. Staff's initial cost estimate was based on the previous similar projects at 204 Street & 54 Avenue and 208 Street & 50A Avenue. Unlike the aforementioned locations, the current location crosses a 4-lane arterial road and hence, requires two poles with mast arms instead of one; and
2. Staff's estimated budget did not include a project contingency.

**Staff Assessment:**

Staff does not recommend proceeding with installation of the proposed crosswalk at 208 Street and 45A Avenue at this time for the following reasons and request that Council reconsider the installation of this pedestrian crossing:

- The demand for a pedestrian crossing at the area is low. A 2019 pedestrian count at the 208 Street and 45A Avenue T-intersection on a school day found that the foot traffic crossing the street between 8:00 am and 3:30 pm was zero. ICBC crash data also indicates that zero pedestrian related collisions have occurred in the past 10 years.
- Pedestrians, including students at Uplands Elementary School, can use the existing crosswalk at 208 Street and 44 Avenue to cross 208 Street. This crosswalk is approximately 160 m (equivalent to an extra 2-minute walk) from the pathway that connects the school to 208 Street.
- Construction and design costs at this location are approximately \$37,000 higher than expected. Furthermore, maintenance costs may be higher than average in the future due to the presence of the nearby hydro wires.
- A crossing guard at this location would be preferred as this crossing is located on an arterial road and would serve students from Uplands Elementary School. School District No. 35 will not provide funding for a crossing guard at this time.

Staff will monitor crossing pedestrian traffic volume in this location and will come back to Council if new data warrants installing a crosswalk at this location.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

N/A.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

N/A.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Cameron Perkin, EIT.  
Engineering Technologist

Concurrence:



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Hirod Gill, P.Eng.  
Manager of Engineering Services

Reviewed by,



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Rick Bomhof, P.Eng.

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:**

I support the recommendation.



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Francis Cheung, P. Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer