

# Corporate Report

NO: R075

COUNCIL DATE: May 12, 2008

#### **REGULAR COUNCIL**

TO: Mayor & Council DATE: May 9, 2008

FROM: General Manager, Engineering FILE: 5450-30(Bell)

**SUBJECT:** Installation of Cell Phone Equipment on

**City Street Light and Traffic Signal Poles** 

#### RECOMMENDATION

The Engineering Department recommends that Council endorse a one-year pilot program that will allow for the installation of Bell Mobility Cellular transmission equipment at up to four City street light or signal pole locations with a view confirming that this approach to providing enhanced cellular coverage in the City is appropriate and should be expanded.

### **INTENT**

The purpose of this report is to receive Council approval to enter an agreement with Bell Mobility to permit the installation for a one-year trial period of cellular transmission equipment on modified street light and signal poles.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Bell Mobility requested that the City authorize the installation of cellular telephone equipment at existing street light pole locations to enhance their network coverage by eliminating areas in Surrey where cellular calls get dropped. Bell's request would represent the first time any cellular provider has installed cellular equipment on metal street light poles and traffic signal poles.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The new cellular equipment installations would be accomplished by utilizing upgraded and shared street light and traffic signal poles.

Subject to Council approval of the recommendation of this report, such installations are proposed at the following locations:

1. 132 Street and 108 Avenue:

- 2. Fraser Highway and 96 Avenue (or a nearby alternate location);
- 3. 128 Street and 100 Avenue; and
- 4. 144 Street and 60 Avenue (this work will be coordinated with the traffic signal installation planned for this year).

It is expected that if this pilot were successful, Bell would be prepared to expand the use of this low-height equipment to approximately 40 sites throughout the City. Based on the proposed equipment, only one provider's equipment can be accommodated on each pole location.

#### **Aesthetics**

Appendix I contains photographs that represent the approximate configuration of the proposed poles and cellular equipment at the above-referenced locations. The shared use poles will be larger in diameter and somewhat taller (15 to 25 ft. +/-) than regular street light poles. The general guideline will be to keep the height of the new pole to no more than 50% taller than the standard pole that is being replaced.

In addition, each site will require a kiosk. The kiosk measures 0.8m wide x 0.8m deep x 1.2m high. These would be placed at locations that would minimize the visual impact and they would be wrapped in an appropriate vinyl print material suitable to the location.

#### Maintenance

Bell will be responsible for maintaining the new poles and related cellular equipment. The City will remain responsible for maintaining the City infrastructure that is accommodated on the pole.

#### **Revenue Stream**

The City will receive \$8,000 per pole per year.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The implementation of shared use poles will enhance Bell cellular coverage in Surrey, which will benefit Surrey residents on this system. As the equipment utilizes shared poles, it will not increase the number of poles in the City. Since the poles are relatively low in height, they will have a less significant visual impact than the traditional taller cellular towers. The installations will also create a new revenue stream for the City, even though this is not the prime reason for recommending that the City proceed with a pilot program.

The Engineering Department does not have any concerns with installation of the larger shared poles. Prior to implementation of these new installations, an agreement to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor and the General Manager of Engineering must be completed and the City must approve pole designs prepared by Bell and its consultants.

Based on the above discussion, the Engineering Department recommends that Council endorse a one-year pilot program that will allow for the installation of Bell Mobility Cellular transmission equipment at up to four City street light or signal pole locations with a view to confirming that this approach to providing enhanced cellular coverage in the City is appropriate and should be expanded. The Engineering Department will report to Council at the end of the one-year period on the success of the program and with recommendations regarding its expansion.

Paul Ham, P. Eng. General Manager, Engineering

VL/JB/DH/brb:kd

c.c. - City Solicitor

Appendix I - Photos/Photo Simulated Diagrams

g:\wp-docs\2008\administration\cr\04220908jb.doc BRB 7/15/10 2:03 PM

## **APPENDIX I**







