

NO: R005

COUNCIL DATE: January 10, 2011

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **January 4, 2011**

FROM: **General Manager, Engineering**

FILE: **8710-20(heritage)**

SUBJECT: **Study Related to the Introduction of a Streetcar in the Cloverdale Town Centre**

RECOMMENDATION

The Engineering Department recommends that Council receive this report as information.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about a pending study related to the possibility of introducing a heritage streetcar service in the Cloverdale Town Centre and the initial steps that will be taken by staff in support of such a project.

BACKGROUND

A streetcar operating in the Cloverdale Town Centre has been the aspiration of local businesses and heritage rail supporters in Surrey for some time. In 2002, a heritage streetcar (since re-named "Clover Belle") was brought from Saanich to Cloverdale by a group of citizens with the intention of restoring it for operation in Cloverdale. The streetcar could potentially provide passenger service and another transportation option for individuals travelling between the commercial areas of Cloverdale's Town Centre and the Cloverdale Fairgrounds. The map attached as Appendix I illustrates a conceptual alignment for a streetcar service in Cloverdale with an initial stage located on 176 Street between Highway 10 and 58 Avenue and a future extension to the Cloverdale Fairgrounds north of 60 Avenue.

Recent discussion with representatives of the Cloverdale District Chamber of Commerce and the Surrey Heritage Rail Society indicate that both organizations continue to support such a streetcar project and are interested to start moving forward with its planning and related fund-raising. These organizations will be launching a fundraising effort with the public and senior governments in 2011 with the focus being to raise sufficient funds to introduce a streetcar in Cloverdale.

DISCUSSION

There is some potential for synergies between the implementation of a pilot heritage passenger rail service along the interurban between Cloverdale and Sullivan and the implementation of a streetcar project in Cloverdale Town Centre. The 2008 capital improvement project on 176 Street between Highway 10 and 58 Avenue included in the design of the street lights provisions for the

installation of an overhead power supply for streetcars on that section of street. Staff has undertake some preliminary estimating work for the first stage of a Cloverdale Town Centre street car project and has determined that a budget for the planning and implementation of a streetcar operation on 176 Street between Highway 10 and 60 Avenue is in the range of \$3 million and \$4 million.

To advance the project and to validate the project costs, staff is intending to initiate a study in conjunction with the Cloverdale District Chamber of Commerce and Surrey Heritage Rail Society in early 2011 that will:

- Establish a reasonable scope for the first stage of the project;
- Provide a functional level design for the project;
- Establish governance and partnering opportunities for the project;
- Define the potential for integration with other heritage rail facilities and operations;
- Establish project stages; and
- Refine funding requirements and potential partners.

Such a study should be completed by mid-2011. A further report will be provided to Council at that time complete with recommendations.

Vincent Lalonde, P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering

VL/PCL/JB/brb/jkb

Appendix I – Conceptual Streetcar Route in Cloverdale Town Centre

APPENDIX I



CONCEPTUAL STREETCAR ROUTE

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

The data provided is compiled from various sources and IS NOT warranted as to its accuracy or sufficiency by the City of Surrey.
This information is provided for information and convenience purposes only.
Lot lines, legal descriptions and encumbrances must be confirmed at the Land and Title Office.

GISMapping\GISMappl
CorporateReport\Eng\Transp\AW-Conceptual_
Streetcar_Route-AP.mxd