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CORPORATE REPORT

NO: R157 COUNCIL DATE: **July 27, 2015**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **July 24, 2015**

FROM: **General Manager, Engineering** FILE: **3815-300/01**

SUBJECT: **Approval of Funding for Inter-Regional Commercial Corridor Travel Time System**

RECOMMENDATION

The Engineering Department recommends that Council:

1. Authorize a contribution by the City of $921,152.00 (including applicable taxes) for the City's share of installing Intelligent Transportation System for Commercial Corridor Travel Time System for Commercial Corridors;

2. Set the expenditure authorization limit at $1,059,325.00 (including applicable taxes); and

3. Authorize the General Manager, Engineering to sign a Canada-Surrey Contribution Agreement that will facilitate the transfer of funding to the City for the subject project.

INTENT

The City of Surrey is proposing to install an Inter-Regional Commercial Corridor Travel Time System which is an Intelligent Transportation System that will provide real time travel time information to vehicles along major corridors. The purpose of this report is to advise that the Government of Canada has agreed to contribute 50% of the eligible costs of installing such Intelligent Transportation Systems along major corridors in Surrey, to a maximum of $921,152, and to obtain authorization for the General Manager, Engineering to sign a Canada-Surrey Contribution Agreement that will facilitate the transfer of the funding to the City for the subject project.

BACKGROUND

The Government of Canada implemented the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative (APGCI), with the primary focus to enhance the capacity and efficiency of Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor. This investment program is targeted squarely on goods and people moving between North America and Asia. In developing an integrated long-term plan for Gateway and Corridor infrastructure, the Initiative will address emerging bottlenecks and multi-modal transfer points to build the reputation of the Gateway and Corridor as a reliable, efficient and secure connection between North America and Asia.

Since 2006, the Government of Canada has invested close to $1.4 billion across Canada for projects in British Columbia that address urgent capacity and congestion problems affecting the efficiency of the Gateway and Corridor. Approximately $16.5 million in contribution funding is currently available in British Columbia under the APGCI to support projects that can be completed by December 31, 2017. This funding is to be combined with the investments of other governments and the private sector to promote more efficient and seamless connections between the various modes of transportation.

DISCUSSION

Earlier this year, the Federal Government advised that they had additional funding available through the APGCI Fund. The criteria provided that municipal government projects would be considered for 50% cost sharing. In April, the City of Surrey submitted two applications for the following projects:

- Inter-Regional Commercial Corridor Travel Time System within the City of Surrey; and
- Bridgeview Drive Widening and related road works from King George Boulevard to South Fraser Perimeter Road (subject of a separate Corporate Report).

The City of Surrey will be the first municipality in British Columbia to install a Travel Time Information System. We are proposing to implement the System in order to improve the flow of goods and vehicles within the region. An array of Bluetooth detection units will be deployed along major commercial vehicle corridors to capture traffic data and calculate route travel time information in real-time. These proposed corridors are illustrated on the map attached as Appendix I to this report. Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) will be deployed at strategic locations to provide en route notification of route travel times to commercial vehicle operators and regular commuter traffic. The System will also provide real time travel time information to Traffic Management Centre operators and the City's website.

Infrastructure for Bluetooth technologies and Dynamic Message Signs will be placed along key corridors correspond to major north-south and east-west commercial truck routes. Multiple routes are proposed for detectors such that comparison options will be available to travelers so that they can select the optimal route based on current traffic conditions. This will benefit not only commercial vehicle operators, but also regular commuters. The data collected will significantly improve Surrey's ability to monitor and manage traffic within our jurisdiction, and supports the technology on Highway 99. This project will improve the efficiency of the transportation network as a whole, with the added value of improving movement of international trade to and from Asia-Pacific markets. Data collected from this project will also provide a valuable input into future planning and infrastructure improvement projects

FUNDING

The City has just received notice from the Federal Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and from the Federal Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway that approval-in-principle has been granted to fund 50% of the eligible costs of the above-referenced project to a maximum contribution of $921,152.00. Funding is conditional upon the City of Surrey executing a formal Contribution Agreement by August 28, 2015. As such, it is recommended that Council approve funding for this project and authorize the General Manager, Engineering to execute the Contribution Agreement to secure the referenced funding.

Funding is available from the Engineering Traffic Operations Budget.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

In alignment with goals of the City's Sustainability Charter, the Inter-Regional Commercial Corridor Travel Time System will enhance the public realm, assist in enhancing accessibility within the City, and support efficient goods movement and the economic activity at local docks and ports and support the intermodal goods transfers. More particularly, the project will support the following Sustainability Charter Scope action items:

- SC13: Creating a fully accessible City;
- EN15: Sustainable transportation Option; and
- EC16: Increase Transit and Transportation to Support a Sustainable Economy.

CONCLUSION

An Inter-Regional Travel Time System will support the objectives of the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative. The Government of Canada has offered to contribute 50% of the eligible cost of constructing improvements to a maximum of $921,152.00. With a view to securing this funding, it is recommended that Council approve project funding and authorize the General Manager, Engineering to execute a Canada-Surrey Contribution Agreement under the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative Transportation Infrastructure Fund to satisfy a condition that is precedent to receiving the funds.

Fraser Smith, P.Eng., MBA
General Manager, Engineering

JB/AA/clr

Appendix I – Proposed Corridors for Travel Time System

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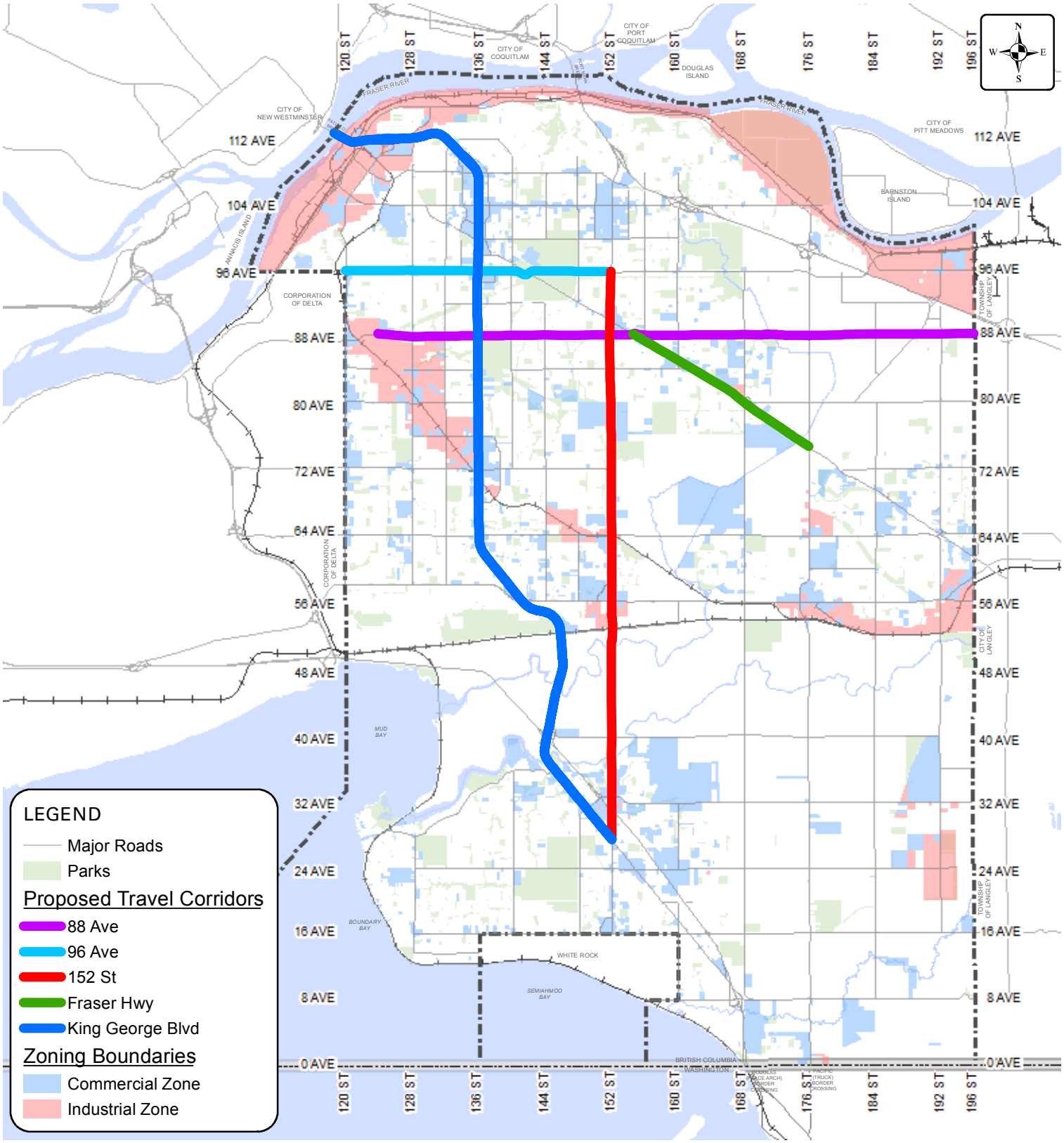
APPENDIX I



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Proposed Corridors for Travel Time System

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 sizes, Legal descriptions and encumbrances must be confirmed at the Land Title Office.

Source: G:\MAPPING\GIS\Maps\CorporateReps\Transp\CW_TravelTimeSystem.mxd