

INFORMATION NOTE

Title: King's Bridge Road at Winter Avenue Crosswalk Enhancement

Date Prepared: October 18, 2023

Report To: Committee of the Whole

Councillor and Role: Councillor Maggie Burton, Transportation & Regulatory Services

Ward: Ward 2

Issue: Conversion of Special Crosswalk with Overhead flashers to Pedestrian Signal

Discussion – Background and Current Status:

The crossing of the four lanes of traffic on King's Bridge Road at Winter Ave can be challenging at times to even the most avid walkers. This crosswalk is the main connection in getting walkers down the Rennie's Mill trail to various amenities in the vicinity of Quidi Vidi lake. The area contains more walking trails around Quidi Viidi lake, shopping (groceries and retail), pharmacy, doctors offices, and recreation facilities such as softball field, soccer field, rowing and Cygnus Gymnastics.

Over the years the city has received numerous complaints about motorists not yielding to pedestrians in the crosswalk. This issue has been referred to the RNC for additional enforcement and the city has also added additional flashing amber lights here to compliment the crossing, but complaints are still generated.

Currently this crosswalk is operating with flashing overhead amber signals and Key2Access accessible pedestrian signal operation. To enhance safety for vulnerable road users, it was determined that a higher level of traffic control would be required. This will be provided in the form of a pedestrian signal with a full red, amber, green signal which will demand that motorists stop at a red light.

Challenges with installing a pedestrian signal at this location include the existing traffic queues from nearby traffic signals at the intersections of King's Bridge Road at Empire Avenue and King's Bridge Road at The Boulevard/New Cove Road which are in proximity. The Kelly's Brook SUP (Shared Use Path) will also meet King's Bridge Road at the intersection of Empire Ave and in turn will increase the number of users in the area. Shared Use Path crossings will be included at the intersection of Empire Avenue and King's Bridge Road in future.

ST. JOHN'S

Existing conditions:



Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications: Cost to be covered by 1315 Transportation Engineering budget.
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders: General Public, in particular those with additional accessibility needs.
3. Alignment with Strategic Directions:
A City that Moves: Improve safety for all users on a well-maintained street network.
4. Alignment with Adopted Plans: Not applicable
5. Accessibility and Inclusion: The new signal upgrade will increase the level of control at the intersection and provide a safer crossing for vulnerable users when cars are stopped at the red signal indication.
6. Legal or Policy Implications: Not applicable
7. Privacy Implications: Not applicable
8. Engagement and Communications Considerations: Notify public of new traffic signal upgrade.

9. Human Resource Implications: Not applicable

10. Procurement Implications: Not applicable

11. Information Technology Implications: Not applicable

12. Other Implications:

Prior to the installation of a new pedestrian signal, the existing traffic signals are to be coordinated and tested using GPS (Global Positioning System) clocks for the intersections of Kings Bridge Road at Empire Ave and Kings Bridge Road at The Boulevard/New Cove Road. This is necessary to mitigate vehicular queues in the area. Once these signals are coordinated, the pedestrian signal will be added. The Pedestrian signal will also be equipped with a GPS clock to maintain coordination of all three signals.

Conclusion/Next Steps: Engineering is currently upgrading the electrical service and once complete, we will remove the existing overhead amber flashers and install the full red, amber, green accessible pedestrian signal.

Prepared by: Bill MacDonald

Reviewed by: Amer Afridi

Approved by: Scott Winsor

Attachments:

Report Approval Details

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| Document Title: | Kings Bridge at Winter Avenue Crosswalk Enhancement.docx |
| Attachments: | |
| Final Approval Date: | Oct 19, 2023 |

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Amer Afridi - Oct 18, 2023 - 4:35 PM

Scott Winsor - Oct 18, 2023 - 4:44 PM

No Signature - Task assigned to Jason Sinyard was completed by workflow administrator Karen Chafe

Jason Sinyard - Oct 19, 2023 - 5:27 PM