

City Staff Report

Report Date: January 30, 2018

Meeting Date: February 6, 2018

To: City Manager

From: Director of Development Services

Subject: 2018-2019 BIKEBC GRANT APPLICATION APPROVAL

Purpose

Approval to apply for a BIKEBC Grant for a trail development project.

Summary

- BikeBC has put out a new call for applications for projects aimed at improving cycling infrastructure.
- Two project options are identified for consideration:
 - 1) Johnston Bridge Cycling upgrade.
 - 2) West Riverside multi-use trail.
- The recommended project to advance to the 2018-2019 BIKEBC program is the Johnston Bridge Cycling upgrade.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL direct staff to apply for a Bike BC grant for the Johnston Bridge Retrofit at a total project cost not to exceed \$298,000 with the City funding 50% of that cost through gas tax reserves.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

N/A

COUNCIL POLICY

Official Community Plan - Section 14.3.3 Pedestrian and Bicycle Routes

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Johnston Bridge Cycling -149,000.00 gas tax reserves - note amendment to capital plan required (125,000.00 approved currently).

West Riverside multi-use trail – 125,000.00

BACKGROUND

Two options for improving the trail network within the City are:

- 1) Johnston Bridge Cycling upgrade: \$298,000
- 2) Loop through soccer complex to create West Riverside multi-use trail: \$250,000



BikeBC applications are evaluated on how they improve safety for cyclists. The following lists the order, from most preferable to least preferable, of the infrastructure types that BikeBC typically funds.

- Separated bike paths
- Cyclist/pedestrian bridges and overpasses
- Buffered bike lanes (for example, those that can be separated by barriers such as parked vehicles or painted medians with increased width)
- Bike lanes
- Shoulder bikeways
- Shared roadways

1) Johnston Bridge Cycling Upgrade

The Johnston Bridge Cycling upgrade to install a bicycle lane on Johnston Bridge was applied for and unsuccessful in 2016 as it was not a separated lane. Correspondence with BikeBC representatives indicated that although eligible shared use lanes are less favourable than separated paths. The City has had subsequent discussions with the ministry regarding the need for them to consider resources in the north and will provide additional correspondence in the grant application to make the case for weighing the ability of municipalities to create ideal trail systems they are unlikely able to fund rather than improving the existing transportation systems to make improvements for cyclists and pedestrians.

2) West Riverside Multi-Use Trail

The West Riverside Multi-Use Trail provides a safe loop connection at the southern end of West Quesnel providing opportunity to continue to improve cycling and pedestrian movement as well as create additional recreational options in the community. This trail loop extension has opportunity to be an accessible loop to add to the City's system of treasured trail loops.

OPTIONS

1. Approve moving forward with both applications.
2. Approve submitting applications for an alternative project(s)
3. Deny request

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix I: Johnston Bridge Cycling Upgrade location map

Appendix II: West Riverside Multi-Use trail location map