

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>

Date: 10/14/2016 2:57:05 PM

Subject: Memo - Relocation of Hydro Infrastructure - RTS 11674

Attachments: [Memo to Mayor and Council - RTS #11674 Relocation of Hydro Infrastructu....pdf](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manager - Engineering Services , with an update on the relocation of BC Hydro infrastructure on the Point Grey Road (PGR) Phase II Project.

A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- Undergrounding of BC Hydro and Telus infrastructure is not a required component of the PGR Project and so was not included in the Council approved scope of work and corresponding project costs. However, staff heard during public consultation for the PGR project that some residents were interested in including undergrounding in the scope of work for the project.
- In response to the residents inquiries, residents were given the option of working with BC Hydro and Telus to privately fund optional undergrounding to be coordinated with the City's works. Residents of the 2900 and 3000 blocks of PGR have forwarded payment to BC Hydro and Telus to initiate design works and determine construction feasibility and costs.
- Some residents and media misunderstood the City's notifications on this matter, believing that the City was obligating residents to pay for optional undergrounding. Staff have sent further notices to residents and media representatives clarifying that residents will not be required to fund optional undergrounding works if they do not wish to contribute.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Devan Fitch at 604.871.6998 or devan.fitch@vancouver.ca

Best,
Sadhu

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ENGINEERING SERVICES
Jerry Dobrovolny, P.Eng.
City Engineer / General Manager

VanRIMS No.: 01-9000-20

MEMORANDUM

October 13, 2016

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Acting Deputy City Manager
Janice MacKenzie, City Clerk
Lynda Graves, Manager, Administration Services, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Director, Communications
Kevin Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Katie Robb, Director, Communications, Mayor's Office
Emma Lee, Director, Community Relations, Mayor's Office

FROM: Jerry Dobrovolny, General Manager of Engineering Services

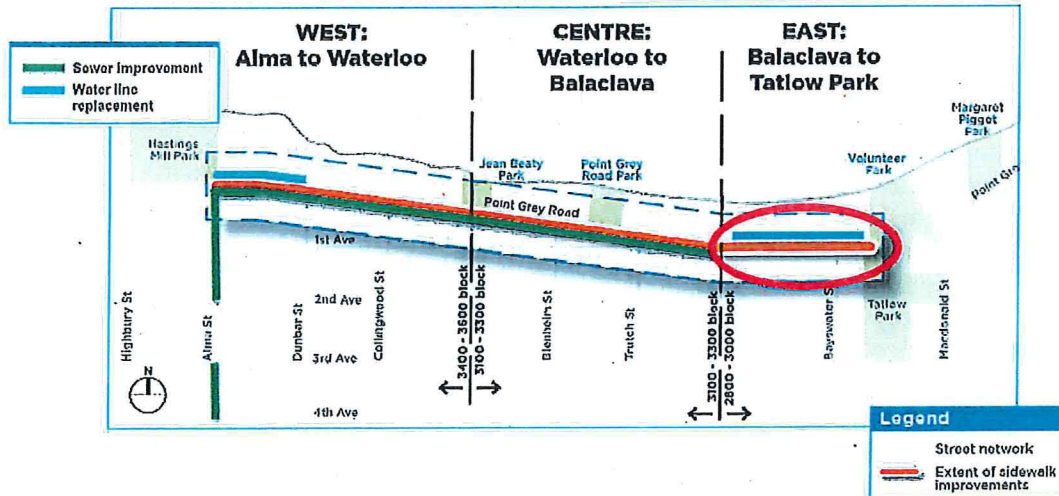
SUBJECT: RTS 011674.Relocation of BC Hydro infrastructure on the Point Grey Road Phase II Project

The purpose of this memo is to provide a brief update on the relocation of BC Hydro infrastructure associated with the Point Grey Road Phase II (PGR) Project.

In general, the applicable costs of third party utility relocations that are required as part of City works completed on City streets are included in project costs and paid for from existing program budgets or project budgets approved by Council. There is no additional funding required from adjacent business or residents. In cases where relocations are not required or in cases where additional utility works are requested by private property owners or businesses, the additional costs for these works are negotiated directly with the relevant utility provider and paid for by the private property owner or business. The City does not obligate any businesses or residents to contribute to optional works.

During the preliminary design and planning phases of the PGR project, any necessary relocation of third party utility infrastructure such as aerial BC Hydro or Telus lines were identified and included in the scope of work. For example, relocations required to ensure that utility poles would not be located in the middle of widened sidewalks. No requirements for undergrounding of aerial infrastructure were identified.

Staff heard during public consultation on the PGR Project in the summer of 2015 that some residents were interested in the option of privately funding the undergrounding of BC Hydro lines. In response to this, a notification letter with a survey was sent to residents along the corridor in July 2016, extending the option for residents to privately fund the relocation should they be interested, at an approximate cost of \$80,000 per household. Less than 50% of respondents were in favour of undergrounding utilities and overall residents did not support funding the project or providing space for the required transformation boxes, with the exception of residents in the 3000 and 2900 blocks of Point Grey Road, circled below, where sufficient support for further investigation was obtained.



The notification letter and related media coverage led to a misunderstanding, with some residents believing that the City was obligating residents to pay for the optional undergrounding. In response to this, staff issued a second notification letter to all residents along the corridor, clarifying that no resident is under any obligation to pay for the potential undergrounding under discussion.

City staff continue to work with the residents of the 2900 and 3000 blocks of Point Grey Road to facilitate conversations with BC Hydro and Telus to determine the feasibility and costs associated with undergrounding in this section. Given the tight project timelines, residents were advised that payment of a deposit to BC Hydro and Telus to start necessary design work would need to be received by Telus and BC Hydro by October 7, 2016. Staff have recently received confirmation that this payment has been received.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Devan Fitch at 604.871.6998 or devan.fitch@vancouver.ca.

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