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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
Date: 7/23/2019 3:11:34 PM
Subject: Questions from Council regarding the outdoor lighting strategy

Greetings Mayor and Council

Staff have received a few additional questions on the outdoor lighting strategy. Please find the questions and answers below:

1. It mentions impacts of lighting on vulnerable communities. Was there outreach to vulnerable communities on the strategy? Street-oriented and homeless communities? Urban Indigenous communities?

We consulted with the Women's Advisory Committee, Seniors' Advisory Committee, Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee and VPD through the development of the strategy. We also worked with staff from the City's Arts, Culture and Community Services department to better integrate equity into the strategy. We did not consult directly with street-oriented and homeless community or urban indigenous communities. However, the intent is to consult with vulnerable communities prior to implementing the LED retrofit program, particularly in areas with higher populations of vulnerable people (for example, areas where sex-trade workers are located). An intersectional lens will also be taken with this work, in partnership with ACCS.

2. Is there any prioritization on schools and lighting for safety around schools?

Lighting improvements on streets and sidewalks around school areas have been identified as a high priority under section 4.1 of the Streets and Public Realm Lighting Design Guidelines.

3. The timeline for transitioning fully to LED still seems long. What are the relative cost savings / GHG reduction opportunities for doing that quickly? Particularly thinking with an emergency lens on climate.

Transitioning to LEDs will have GHG reduction benefits, though those benefits are relatively modest because our electricity is largely derived from hydroelectricity (i.e., it has a low GHG factor). The cost saving of switching to LEDs are more significant, as are the safety benefits. For this reason, staff are currently exploring how quickly an LED retrofit could be done, while leveraging our existing maintenance replacement program. The four-year LED transitioning plan is based on the assumption that 11,000 high-pressure sodium (HPS) roadway lighting fixtures will be replaced per year (to a total of 44,000 over 4 years). This appears to be the most viable option to accomplish the goal using existing internal resources (and considering other aspects such as storage, manufacturing capabilities and delivery lead times). If we expedite the transition process to 2 years, additional internal/external resources would be required. As noted, staff are currently reviewing how best to roll out the LED retrofit program.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

Best

Sadhu

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Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.