

KINGSWAY AND KNIGHT NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE: SHOPPING AREA PUBLIC REALM AND PEDESTRIAN/TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Adopted by City Council on July 6, 2004

The following information has been extracted from two sources: the Kingsway and Knight Neighbourhood Centre: Shopping Area Public Realm and Pedestrian/Traffic Improvement Plan, and the staff report that dealt with its adoption by City Council on July 6, 2004. The complete Plan document is available from the Planning Department at 604-873-7344 or at www.city.vancouver.bc.ca.

The Plan is a joint project of the City Plans Division and the Engineering Department, particularly the Transportation and Streets Branches.

1.0 Background

The Public Realm and Pedestrian/Traffic Improvements Plan implements Directions in the Kensington-Cedar Cottage Community Vision (1998) are to improve this key shopping area. Together with the Kingsway and Knight Neighbourhood Centre: Housing Area Plan, and some other initiatives, the Plan will reinforce the area as a Neighbourhood Centre.

2.0 Plan Contents: General Description

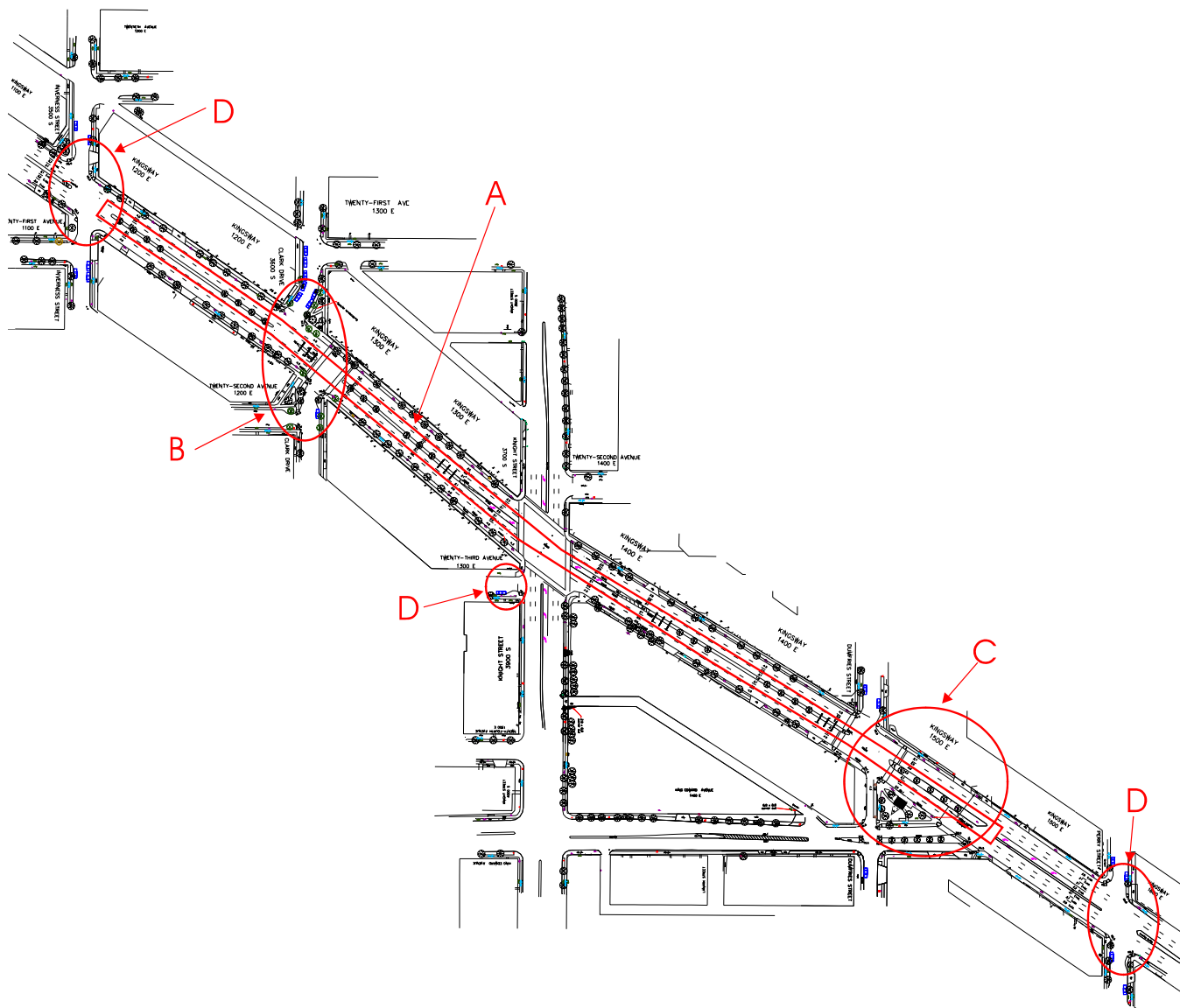
The Plan includes a number of changes to achieve several objectives: a special local identity; enhanced pedestrian comfort, convenience and amenity; a variety of attractive public places; enhanced appearance through greening; and provision for a future commuter bicycle facility along Kingsway. (Figure 1 on the reverse provides an overview.)

Improvements include:

- (a) On Kingsway, a landscaped median between Inverness and Perry Streets (A on Figure 1);
- (b) Geometric changes to the intersections of Clark Drive and Kingsway, and Dumfries, King Edward, and Kingsway (B and C on Figure 1). These will create shorter pedestrian crossings and small “mini-parks” with landscaping, seating, and public art;
- (c) Smaller landscaped corner bulges at Inverness and Kingsway, Perry and Kingsway, and E. 23rd Avenue and Knight (D on Figure 1). These will allow easier pedestrian crossing and additional landscaping;
- (d) Replacement and additional street trees, trees in the median, and other landscaping;
- (e) A unique paving pattern and sidewalk stamp for new concrete sidewalks;

- (f) New street furniture to be supplied through the City's Viacom/JCDecaux contract, in the "Heritage" line and glossy black finish;
- (g) Decorative luminaires to replace existing highway-style fixtures on existing poles; and
- (h) Public art, such as pole-mounted kinetic pieces or banners, "story stones", and improvements around the existing "Flower Totems" sculpture.

Figure 1: Plan



3.0 Funding

Council approved the project funding of \$2,705,200, coming from a variety of sources including \$1,633,055 million from the City (Streets Basic Capital, sale of the lane at King Edward Village, Development Cost Levies), \$823,500 from Translink, and \$249,145 provided by the King Edward Village developer as a condition of rezoning.

4.0 Next Steps

Further design development and costing of the street works will be undertaken starting in fall of 2004. It is anticipated that major construction would begin in the summer of 2005.