

DATE OF MEETING APRIL 11, 2018

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**SUBJECT POLICY 11-5400-09 TRANSPORTATION NON STANDARD  
CROSSWALK MARKING POLICY**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To present options and recommendations regarding the draft "Policy 11-5400-09 Transportation Non-Standard Crosswalk Policy".

### **Recommendation**

That the Public Works and Engineering Committee endorse "Policy 11-5400-09 Transportation Non-Standard Crosswalk Policy" and recommend that Council endorse the Policy.

## **BACKGROUND**

Through engineering, education, and enforcement, drivers and pedestrians have been conditioned to identify crosswalks marked with white parallel lines or white zebra bars as the location where pedestrians should be expected to cross the road. As road marking products have advanced, there has become an opportunity to include more artistic treatments with the standard road markings and many municipalities have used this as an opportunity to add community art; however, these pieces of art may create safety or operational maintenance concerns.

In 2016 and 2017, the Nanaimo Pride Society approached the City and asked to have crosswalks along the Pride Parade route painted with rainbow patterns. In support of the Society, Council directed staff to paint two crosswalks at the intersection of Bastion Street and Commercial Street in 2016, and then all four crosswalks in 2017. This work cost approximately \$5,000 and \$10,000 respectively. In 2017, staff also received a request from the Victoria Crescent Business Association to have a crosswalk on Victoria Crescent marked with a non-standard crosswalk pattern, however the pavement at this crosswalk was in need of renewal and staff advised the Business Association that it would not be possible to apply this type of marking without first repaving the crosswalk.

Staff are anticipating that requests for non-standard crosswalk markings will increase and are recommending that Council adopt a policy for receiving and responding to these requests as there could be transportation safety or budgetary impacts that would need to be considered. Crosswalks that include elaborate designs may create a distraction to pedestrians or drivers and the cost to install or renew could be many times greater than the more conventional parallel line or zebra crosswalk.

## **OPTIONS**

1. That the Public Works and Engineering Committee endorse “Policy 11-5400-09 Transportation Non Standard Crosswalk Marking Policy” and recommend that Council endorse the Policy:
  - **Budget Implication:** Undertaking a staff review for each request for non-standard crosswalk markings will enable staff to determine if there will be any financial impacts associated with the request.
2. That the Public Works and Engineering Committee recommend changes to the draft “Transportation Non Standard Crosswalk Marking Policy” |

## **SUMMARY POINTS**

- Requests for non-Standard crosswalks need to be reviewed to determine the road safety and municipal finances impacts.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – Draft “Policy 11-5400-09 Transportation Non Standard Crosswalk Marking Policy” |

### **Submitted by:**

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### **Concurrence by:**

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