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## CITY OF KELOWNA

# MEMORANDUM

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**Date:** April 27, 2001  
**File No.:** 5320-20 Marshall Street

**To:** City Manager

**From:** Director of Works and Utilities

**Subject:** Local Improvements – Marshall Street

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council approve the strategy for achieving the burial of electrical and telecommunication wires on Marshall Street as outlined in the report of the Director of Works and Utilities;

AND THAT Council approval amendments to the Local Improvement Bylaw to allow for recovery of cost for wire burial;

AND FURTHER THAT Council give first three readings to the bylaw.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Kelowna intends to conduct upgrading of water, sewer and road infrastructure on Marshall Street from Rowcliff to Buckland this summer. As part of this work, the residents have petitioned for local improvements to allow for landscaping, curb, gutter and asphalt widening. As well, the City will be installing heritage style lighting fixtures, heritage conservation area street signage and benches. Council has approved the local improvement bylaw to allow for the work to proceed.

As part of the work, the burial of all electrical and telecommunication wires has been requested by the property owners. As previously identified to Council, Telus and Shaw are unable to cover the full cost of the burial of wires. Telus is covering 50% of their costs while Shaw is covering most of theirs. The City Electrical Utility is covering 100% of the cost of burying their wires as part of the ongoing undergrounding policy. It should be noted the cost of upgrading and burying all wires on this block is approximately \$100,000 before contributions by the various utilities. There is a shortfall of some \$18,000 that would have to be funded by the City and the residents.

Staff has reviewed options to cover this additional cost. In this regard Planning staff has identified that the undergrounding of wires would enhance the desired image on this key heritage street. The undergrounding of wires allows for elimination of poles, improved landscaping and placement of heritage style lighting. Funds are available through the Heritage Conservation Fund to cover the cost of the proposed heritage style features as well as half the estimated \$18,000 cost for undergrounding of wires. Through discussion with a representative of the residents, residents would be prepared to cover the other half, in addition to the other local improvement costs. We have been advised 10 of the 11 affected residents have agreed to this.

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To allow for the residents to cover this additional cost, it will be necessary to amend the present Local Improvement Bylaw No. 6600-90 to allow for residents to pay for a portion of the undergrounding of wires. As such, Council is requested to approve and give the first three readings to the following inclusion to the Bylaw Schedule "A":

*"Charges for burial of electrical and telecommunications wires as determined by the City of Kelowna shall be assessed on a per parcel basis".*

With this additional cost being added to the Local Improvement charges to the property owners it will be necessary to reopen Kelowna Local Improvement File No. 648 and allow residents to sign a new petition with the additional costs included. Based on the response already received from affected property owners, it is believed the new petition will be successful.

The work on Marshall Street is expected to occur during the summer months following the completion of the KSS school season as well as the reopening of Pandosy Street.

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John Vos, Director of Works and Utilities

cc. Water Manager  
Roadways Technician (D. Lamb)  
Long Range Planning (G. Routley)  
City Clerk