

October 10, 2017

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To: City Manager

From: General Manager Engineering and Public Works

Subject: **Installation of a Rainbow Crosswalk**

For: **Council**

Recommendation:

That Council direct staff to proceed with the installation of a rainbow crosswalk at Burlington Drive and Pinetree Way with the costs to be funded from the Infrastructure Reserve Fund.

Report Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to share with Council the review that staff conducted in selecting a site for the installation of a rainbow crosswalk and seek Council's approval to proceed with the installation.

Strategic Goal:

The installation of a rainbow crosswalk provides a simple statement that Coquitlam is a diverse, inclusive, and welcoming community, which supports our goals to strengthen neighbourhoods and increase active participation and creativity.

Background:

At the September 11, 2017, Council in Committee (CiC) meeting, Council heard from two delegations seeking Council's support to install special crosswalks in both a rainbow pattern as well as that of the transgender flag. At the October 2, 2017, CiC meeting, Council heard from another delegation of two individuals seeking Council's support to install a rainbow crosswalk at a location within Coquitlam. The discussion in the 'Other Business' portion of the October 2nd, 2017 meeting provided staff with sufficient direction to review the request and report back to Council with recommendations.

Discussion/Analysis:

The installation of a rainbow crosswalk is a symbol and statement of the City's commitment to diversity and inclusiveness. The rainbow crosswalk, while closely aligned with the LGBTQ community, is also a recognized symbol of inclusiveness of a broad range of individuals, communities and social movements.

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A number of high profile and community-focused locations were considered for possible installation of a rainbow crosswalk including:

- 1) Poirier Street between Poirier Sport & Leisure Complex and the Dogwood Pavilion,
- 2) Brunette Avenue at Marmont / King Edward Street,
- 3) Lansdowne Drive or David Avenue at one of the Coquitlam Crunch trail crossings,
- 4) Pinetree Way at Lougheed Highway / Barnet Highway,
- 5) Trevor Wingrove Way in Town Centre Park, and
- 6) Burlington Drive at Pinetree Way.

A key map showing the locations of the crosswalks considered is attached as attachment 1.

Staff considered a number of criteria when evaluating possible crosswalk locations for the installation of a rainbow crosswalk, including:

- a. Visibility, number of people who would see the crosswalk,
- b. Universal accessibility,
- c. Suitability for the crosswalk to accommodate a rainbow pattern (existing 'green' bike crosswalks were considered not suitable, and a 'twin line' crosswalk was preferred over the 'zebra' format crosswalk),
- d. Traffic volumes, passing by and driving over the crosswalk,
- e. Road surface condition (it must be very good (new) and be asphalt to provide a good bond for the material), and
- f. The potential for the crossing to be vandalized should be minimized, to the extent possible.

After carefully considering the locations identified, staff concluded the best location to install a rainbow crosswalk would be the west leg of the intersection of Burlington Drive and Pinetree Way. A map showing the location of the recommended location, together with a concept rendering of what the rainbow crosswalk would look like is attached as attachment 2.

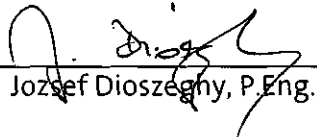
This location sees a lot of pedestrian and vehicle traffic, but relatively low volumes of vehicles driving over the crossing. It is located immediately adjacent to City Hall and along the main vehicle route to and from the RCMP Detachment. It is located near our 'Spirit Square,' which has hosted a number of community events, including street parties like the recent food truck event. It is a 'twin line' format crosswalk and is located in an area which has been recently paved. The cost to install and maintain the crosswalk markings in a state of good repair will be less at this location due to the smaller size/length of the crossing, but more importantly due to the lower vehicle traffic volumes that drive over the crossing.

Financial Implications:

The cost to install a rainbow crosswalk is estimated to be in the order of \$10,000 to be funded from the Infrastructure Reserve Fund.

Conclusion:

Staff recommend that Council direct the installation of a rainbow crosswalk at the existing marked crosswalk on the west leg of Burlington Drive at Pinetree Way. The selected location is in the heart of the City Centre area and civic precinct and has relatively high traffic exposure but will experience less wear and tear and require less maintenance, as it has less vehicular traffic and is not a route used by heavy vehicles.



Jozsef Dioszeghy, P.Eng.

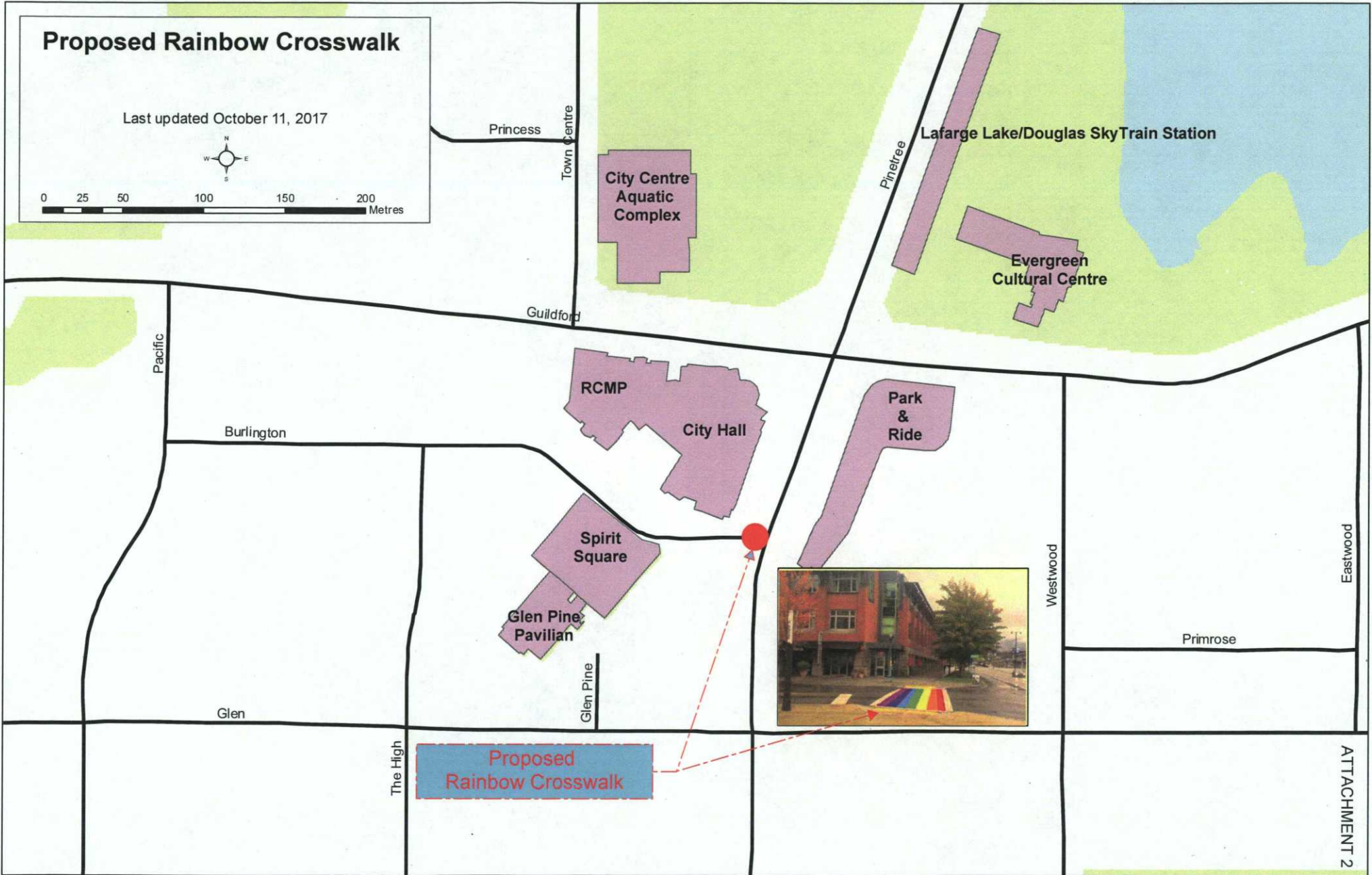
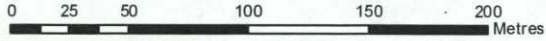
Attachment 1 – Key map of crosswalk locations considered

Attachment 2 – Map showing recommended location and concept rendering

This report was prepared by Dan Mooney, ASCT, Manager Transportation and reviewed by Michelle Hunt, General Manager Finance and Technology, and Kathleen Vincent, Manager Corporate Communications.

Proposed Rainbow Crosswalk

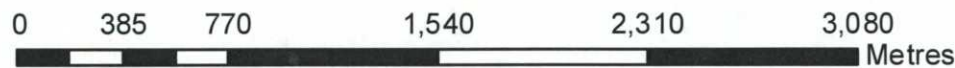
Last updated October 11, 2017



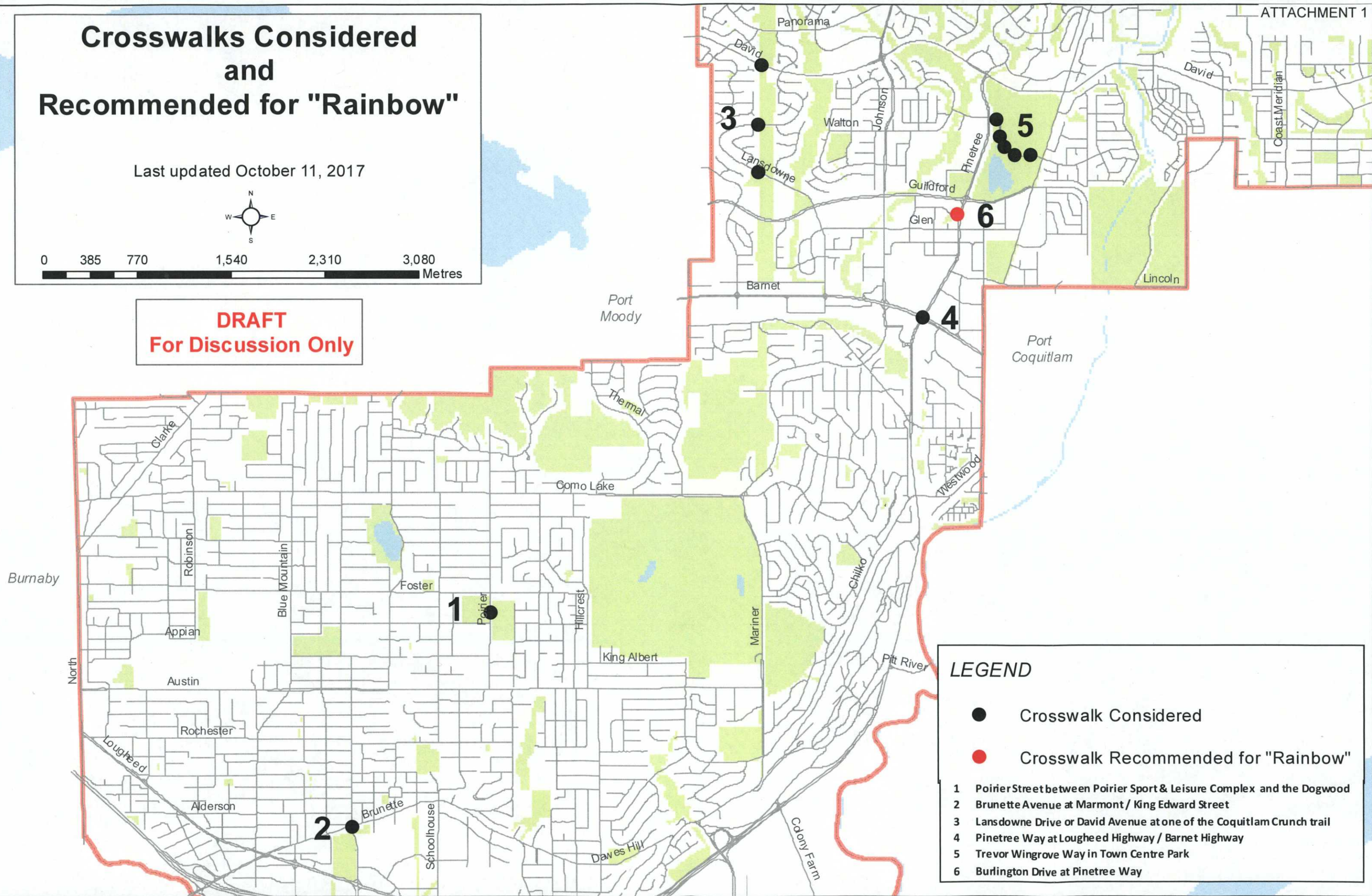
ATTACHMENT 2

Crosswalks Considered and Recommended for "Rainbow"

Last updated October 11, 2017



DRAFT
For Discussion Only



LEGEND

- Crosswalk Considered
 - Crosswalk Recommended for "Rainbow"
- 1 Poirier Street between Poirier Sport & Leisure Complex and the Dogwood
 - 2 Brunette Avenue at Marmont / King Edward Street
 - 3 Lansdowne Drive or David Avenue at one of the Coquitlam Crunch trail
 - 4 Pinetree Way at Lougheed Highway / Barnet Highway
 - 5 Trevor Wingrove Way in Town Centre Park
 - 6 Burlington Drive at Pinetree Way