CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 29, 2001

File No.: 5400-02

To: City Manager

From: Transportation Manager

Subject: Bellevue Creek Bridge @ Fuller Rd

RECOMMENDATION

THAT funds from the Major Bridge Maintenance Reserve be allocated in the Final Budget to construct the bridge crossing Bellevue Creek, connecting Fuller Road to Cascia Drive.

BACKGROUND

The recent development application for the former Capozzi property (Plan 51249 Lot A – 4566 Fuller Road) has generated the opportunity to upgrade the roadway network in the Collett Road/Walker Road residential areas. A future bridge connection across Bellevue Creek, connecting Fuller Road to Cascia Drive/Walker Road, has been envisioned in the OCP and the North Mission/Crawford Sector Plan, and it passes directly through the above-noted development proposal.

The connection of Fuller Road to Cascia Drive has been identified in the OCP and the North Mission/Crawford Sector Plan. The link is necessary for a number of reasons including:

- Resolution to long cul-de-sac issues from both the Collett Road area and the Walker Road/Cascia Drive area. Such long, single-entry neighborhoods overburden the road network in the area and also pose a significant safety risk should the single access become blocked to emergency vehicles.
- Neighborhood connectivity allowing community assets (access to the commercial node at Collett, parks, waterfront access, and access to the traffic control signal and schools at Eldorado) to be more openly shared between adjacent developments.
- Preserving capacity along the Lakeshore arterial corridor by providing enhanced opportunities for internal neighborhood trips.
- Increasing the opportunities for pedestrians and cyclists along the lakeshore.

The estimate cost to construct the bridge is \$140,000. The developer made a contribution towards the bridge connection of \$55,000. The remaining funding is proposed to come from the Major Bridge Maintenance Reserve.

In addition to these reasons, a number of petitions (20) have been received from the immediate neighborhood residents in support of achieving this link at this time. When considering this link, a number of the petitioners chose to include a request to complete the connection of Apsey Road on the same petition as noted above. Apsey Road is presently a short cul-de-sac extending southward off of Knowles Road, however, the ROW extends across a creek to connect with Caronia Crescent. Presently, only a pedestrian connection exists across this ROW.

While the actual reasons why the connection was never made in the past is uncertain, the Transportation Division is not supportive of connecting it at this time for the following reasons:

- Such a connection would increase the amount of traffic using the Knowles Road to gain access to Lakeshore Road. This is considered to be a negative impact given it's proximity to the signalized intersection at Eldorado Road. Provided the traffic volumes can be handled at the signalized Eldorado intersection, which they can quite readily, as much neighborhood traffic should be directed to this location as possible.
- As the link is not deemed to be necessary, the disruption to the residents adjacent to Apsey Road is difficult to justify.

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