
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 23, 2001
File No.: 5400-02
To: City Manager
From: Transportation Manager
Subject: Bellevue Creek Bridge @ Fuller Rd

Recommendation

THAT the project to construct the Fuller Rd bridge over Bellevue Creek be removed from the 2001 budget;

AND THAT funds contributed to this project by the developer of lands on the north side of the creek be placed in reserve for the future construction of this bridge;

AND THAT further consultation take place with the neighbourhoods north and south of Bellevue Creek to address present and future traffic concerns of the area and the design of the proposed bridge prior to approval by Council.

Background

At its April 2, 2001 Regular Meeting, Council approved funding in the 2001 budget to construct a minor street crossing over Bellevue Creek. The link is shown in the City's North Mission/Crawford Sector Plan and the Transportation Plan. Since Council's approval of the budget for the bridge, property owners in the Collett Road subdivision have expressed concerns over the City's plans to connect Fuller Road to Casia Drive.

The link between the two neighbourhoods provides for a resolution to the long single access issues of both the Collett Road area and the Walker Road/Casia Drive area. Besides the improved connectivity between the two neighbourhoods, the proposed link provides alternate access for emergency vehicles and easier access for City services such as garbage collection and snow & ice control. Neither Casia Drive nor Fuller Road have proper turn-arounds. Links such as the Fuller Road to Casia Drive address these issues and serves a role to remove local traffic from Lakeshore Road.

The proposed Fuller Road bridge is planned only as a minor street connection between two neighbourhoods. It is expected to carry only low volumes of traffic that would otherwise need to use Lakeshore Rd. At this time there is still some capacity available on Lakeshore Road to handle this local traffic. Therefore the opportunity does exist to defer construction of this bridge to some future date when conditions warrant.

The Transportation Manager met with representatives of the Collett Road area on April 22, 2001. The views expressed at this meeting ranged from not wanting any bridge connection to having a cycling/pedestrian bridge only. There were many other issues raised at this meeting that were unrelated to the proposed bridge. It was agreed though that further dialogue was necessary with involvement from both neighbourhoods to address this proposed crossing for either vehicles or cycling/pedestrians only.

Subject to Council's approval it is proposed that a working group be created with representatives from each of the two neighbourhoods and staff to address the issues raised.

Ron Westlake, P.Eng.
Transportation Manager

John Vos, P.Eng.
Director of Works & Utilities

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