

Memo

Date: November 9, 2009 File No.: 5400-20
To: City Manager
From: Director, Regional Services
Subject: Approval of provisional Hwy 33 project item - Pedestrian Underpass



RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receive the report of the Director, Regional Services dated November 9, 2009.

AND THAT Council approve staff's recommendation to re-allocate budget from the Rails with Trails project in the amount of \$500,000 from the Community Works Fund, for the inclusion of the Hwy. 33 underpass in the project to widen Hwy 33 to four lanes between Muir Rd. and Gallagher Rd. as agreed with the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure.

AND THAT the 2009 Financial Plan be amended to reflect this project and the funding change.

BACKGROUND:

In early August 2009, Council was presented with a pre tender Term Sheet prepared by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for the Hwy 33 widening project. The term sheet included a line item to include in the tender package a pedestrian underpass as a provisional item - to be subject to Council's approval at the tender close.

As part of the City's Linear Park Plan, there is a plan to develop a linear park along the Gopher Creek corridor. The linear park plan runs parallel to the creek as it crosses Hwy 33 east of Gallagher Rd. Considering the location, width and speed of the highway, a pedestrian underpass has been proposed. The City's Infrastructure Planning group has also made a 2010 budget submission for the Gopher Creek Linear Park Trail connection in the amount of \$225,000 which would deliver a connection from the proposed underpass to Black Mountain elementary, providing for neighbourhood connectivity and pedestrian safety.

As part of the August report to Council, staff agreed to explore sources of funding for the underpass project, and report back with a recommendation. With the Rails with Trails project in temporary hiatus due to the inability to reach an agreement with CN, there is an opportunity today to use a portion of the funds set aside for this purpose. It is staff's recommendation that \$500,000 be re-allocated from the Rails with Trails budget to fund the pedestrian underpass in the Hwy 33 project as agreed with the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure. The Engineer's estimate was \$575,000.

The construction work for this contract is anticipated to commence fall 2009 and is expected to be completed by fall 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, located in the bottom right corner of the page.

INTERNAL CIRCULATION TO:

- Director, Financial Services
- City Clerk

FINANCIAL/BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS:

An amendment to the 2009 Financial Plan will be required to move funding from the Rails with Trails project to the Highway 33 underpass.

Considerations that were not applicable to this report:

- LEGAL/STATUTORY AUTHORITY
- LEGAL/STATUTORY PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS
- EXISTING POLICY
- PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS
- TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS
- EXTERNAL AGENCY/PUBLIC COMMENTS
- COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS
- ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATION

Submitted by:



Ron Westlake, P.Eng.
Director, Regional Services

Approved for Inclusion: GM, Community Sustainability

