

Community Update: South Fraser Perimeter Road

Project Overview

The Ministry of Transportation, through its Gateway Program, is proposing to develop the South Fraser Perimeter Road (SFPR) a new, four-lane, 80km/h route along the south side of the Fraser River from Deltaport Way in Southwest Delta to 176th Street, with connections to Highway 1, and to approximately 184th Street in Surrey where it connects with Translink's future Golden Ears Bridge. Gateway Program *Community Updates* are produced regularly to keep the public informed about the Project's progress and to encourage ongoing communication with the project team.

Environmental Assessment Update

From October 19 to December 17, 2006 and again from April 20 to May 19, 2007 the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) solicited public comments on the Ministry's application. As a result of public and agency comments, the Ministry has produced additional information about the project, including:

- ✓ Detailed response to comments from Environment Canada, one of the federal agencies reviewing the project.
- ✓ Updated Cumulative Effects Assessment – to include the potential effect of the proposed Deltaport Terminal 2 port expansion;
- ✓ Refinements to air quality assessments – incorporating HOV lanes and tolling on Port Mann Bridge, an improved method of predicting GHG emissions and refined assumptions regarding fleet profiles.

In view of this additional information, the BC Environmental Assessment Office is inviting comments through a formal public comment period, which begins on July 10 and ends on July 31.

Electronic copies of the documents referenced above as well as information regarding the environmental assessment review process, are available at www.eao.gov.bc.ca. Comments can be sent by fax, mail or email. Details are available on the EAO web site. Comments must be received at the EAO by July 31, 2007.

Site Preparation

In anticipation of the Environmental Assessment Certificate, site preparation work or "preload" work is planned for some sections along the SFPR alignment.

Much of the corridor is underlain by soft peat soils which are highly compressible and if not addressed before roadway construction, will lead to long term instability and differential settlement. Site preparation is important in that it reduces future highway maintenance by lessening the risk of uneven road surfaces.

Preloading involves adding fill to the "footprint" or designated area of the new road to allow the soft underlying soils to compress before road construction begins. This settlement will take place over a period of up to two years.

There are two main benefits to preloading at this time:

- ✓ Soft soils can compress in a controlled way well ahead of roadway construction, allowing the overall schedule to be met.
- ✓ Settlement data can be collected which will provide the construction contractor with valuable information.



South Fraser Perimeter Road alignment concept, North Delta Section

Site Preparation (continued)

Site preparation work will ONLY be initiated following receipt of an Environmental Assessment Certificate. The requirement of the Environmental Assessment Certificate and respective Environmental Management Plans and Permits are essential before any work can proceed along the entire corridor.

The Gateway Program web site (www.gatewayprogram.bc.ca) will be updated with more information about site preparation as work progresses.

Air Quality

The BC government is moving forward with significant investments in transportation to address current congestion levels, giving people efficient transportation options and reducing vehicle emissions.

The SFPR will create an efficient trade corridor to serve port and industrial areas and relieve congestion, particularly heavy-truck traffic, on arterial and community streets. Significant reductions in truck traffic on River Road, as well as truck and ferry traffic along Highway 17 in southwest Delta, will provide congestion relief for residents in Ladner, Tsawwassen and in communities along the alignment in Surrey.

The Gateway Program is part of a balanced approach. Gateway road and bridge improvements will reduce congestion and provide commuters with options including transit, cycling and car pooling. Getting people moving again and providing reliable transportation options means less time on the road, more productivity and improved air quality. Getting people moving again means a better quality of life.



South Fraser Perimeter Road alignment concept, Sunbury

PROJECT SCHEDULE (subject to change)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Preliminary Design | Fall 2007 |
| Public Consultation | |
| Environmental Assessment Certificate | Fall 2007 |
| Site Preparation | Fall 2007 |
| Procurement | 2008 |
| Detailed Design | 2009 |
| Public Consultation | |
| Design and Construction | 2009-12 |

Gateway's Community Relations Program

The Gateway Program has an ongoing community relations program. We invite you to check out our SFPR community updates on key project elements in local Surrey and Delta newspapers throughout July and August.

SIGN UP FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like to learn more about projects, provide input or have your name added to our information update list to receive community updates like this one and information about future consultation please call our Program Information Line at 604-456-2420 or email: info@gatewayprogram.bc.ca

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Your feedback is important to us. If you have questions or comments, we want to hear from you.

- ✓ Website: www.gatewayprogram.bc.ca
- ✓ Email: info@gatewayprogram.bc.ca
- ✓ Info line: 604-456-2420
- ✓ Fax: 604-439-2585