



December 7, 2021

The Honourable Rob Fleming
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
PO Box 9055 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister,

Re: George Massey Crossing Project

On November 4, 2021, Delta Council received a presentation on the George Massey Crossing Project from the Ministry and Transportation Investment Corporation (TI Corp) project team. We are pleased to see this project moving forward and the significant benefits it will bring to Delta residents and the region as a whole. I am writing to highlight some important elements for consideration in the project scope:

1. River Road Connection Across Highway 99:

To accommodate current and future growth within Ladner, a connection on River Road across Highway 99 is critical for Delta and must be included in the project. The original concepts displayed to the public in 2019 included a connection on River Road across Highway 99 to provide a secondary access in and out of Ladner. Many residents took note of the River Road connection during those meetings and highlighted the importance of having a secondary access in and out of Ladner. The connection of River Road has also been highlighted in Delta's Cycling Master Plan as being a key connection for active transportation. Provision of the overpass should include cycling facilities, to connect into the new active transportation tunnel being constructed as part of this project.

2. HOV/Transit Lanes:

During the Council workshop, TI Corp staff noted that the existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes would be replaced with transit-only lanes on the approaches to the new tunnel. To continue to incentivize ride-sharing, carpooling and the use of electric vehicles, please consider revisiting the transit-only lanes to include HOV as well.

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3. Active Transportation Connections:

Council appreciated the inclusion of a separate tube for active transportation within the project scope. TI Corp staff noted that the cycling and pedestrian connections would terminate at the interchanges on either side of the Fraser River (Steveston Highway and Highway 17A) and that the details on the active transportation components are still being finalized. It is critical that the active transportation connections tie into the existing system, such as the Millennium Trail, in order to create a continuous cycling facility from Richmond into Ladner.

4. Future Light Rail Rapid Transit along Highway 99:

It is vital that light rail within the new tunnel not be precluded as part of this project. As the region's population grows, it is imperative that we invest in fast and reliable transit options to reduce dependency on cars. TI Corp staff indicated that the new tunnel would not be able to accommodate future light rail. We would request that this be revisited, such that the new tunnel can be a facility that visions into the longer term future of our transportation system needs.

The City of Delta welcomes the opportunity to work together with the Province on these important elements of the new tunnel design that will serve our communities now and in the future.

Thank you for your consideration of our requests.

Yours truly,



George V. Harvie
Mayor

cc: Chief Wayne Sparrow, Musqueam Indian Band
Chief Ken Baird, Tsawwassen First Nation
Mayor Malcolm Brodie, City of Richmond
Mayor Doug McCallum, City of Surrey
Mayor Darryl Walker, City of White Rock
Delta Council
Sean McGill, City Manager
Steven Lan, Director of Engineering