



## Briefing Note

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**Date:** April 29, 2021

**Prepared for:** Information

**Issue:** Pattullo Bridge Multimodal Pathway Connections

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### Background

- The Pattullo Bridge Replacement Project will provide important improvements for everyone using the bridge, including people who are driving, cycling or walking, as well as communities on either side of the bridge.
- Active transportation is an important component of the project, along with ensuring traffic safety, providing efficient goods movement, community connections and urban integration; with all components designed to meet modern seismic, structural, and roadway design standards.
- The Project team engaged with HUB during the project development and environmental assessment phases of the Project in 2018-2019. Since May 2020, the project team has been working with the Cities of New Westminster and Surrey, HUB and Walkers Caucus to refine the walking and cycling connections within the project boundaries. Constraints in the New Westminster bridgehead area include steep topography, private properties, park and heritage features, and existing infrastructure (e.g. SkyTrain tunnel and underground/overhead utilities).

### Engagement with HUB and Walkers' Caucus

- In addition to regular communications with the City of New Westminster, the project team has engaged with HUB Cycling and Walkers Caucus via a number of video and in-person on-site meeting:
  1. July 2, 2020: video meeting with HUB New Westminster and Walkers' Caucus re. New West connections;
  2. July 16, 2020: video meeting with HUB Surrey and HUB New Westminster re: on-deck facilities;
  3. August 21, 2020: on-site walkabout with Walkers' Caucus re. New West connections;
  4. November 5, 2020: video meeting with HUB New Westminster and Walkers' Caucus re. New West connections;
  5. March 25, 2021: video meeting with HUB New Westminster and Walkers' Caucus re. New West connections;

6. April 8, 2021 - video meeting with HUB New Westminster and Walkers' Caucus re. New West connections;
- In response to comments received from HUB and Walkers' Caucus, the project has made the following design refinements to provide additional improvements to the walking and cycling connections in New Westminster:
    - a. straightening the approach to the Agnes-Royal Overpass;
    - b. adding a new multi-use path on the west side of McBride Boulevard; and
    - c. adding a new, direct connection between the Agnes Greenway and the new bridge.

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#### Outstanding concerns from HUB and Walkers' Caucus

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## ADVICE TO MINISTER

### CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry: Transportation and Infrastructure

Date: March 1, 2021

Minister Responsible: Rob Fleming

# Pattullo Bridge Replacement – Project Timeline

## ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **Work on the new Pattullo Bridge replacement is underway.**
- **In-river environmental permits have been recently secured for the project, getting us one step closer to delivering a modern, toll-free bridge that will benefit thousands of British Columbians every day.**
- **The new bridge will be a signature landmark for the province, and we look forward to sharing a project update with you soon.**

### *If asked, is the project on time?*

- **Now that our permits are in place, we are working to confirm the sequence of construction activities with our contractor.**
- **We will have a project update to share shortly.**

### **If asked, is the project still on budget?**

- **The \$1.377 billion project remains on budget.**

## Background Regarding the Issue:

In February 2018, the Province announced that it would fund, deliver and own the \$1.377-billion bridge to replace the aging Pattullo Bridge. In July 2018, the Province announced a Community Benefits Agreement would be applied to the project and launched procurement with the RFQ stage. In February 2020, a Design-Build-Finance contract valued at \$967.5 million was awarded to Fraser Crossing Partners (partnership between Acciona and Aecon).

The new bridge opening date was originally announced for fall 2023. A key priority for the Pattullo Bridge Replacement Project is safety, environmental protection and minimizing impacts. It is a large, complex infrastructure project on the longest river in B.C. and permitting requirements have taken longer than expected.

On-site investigative work and permit processes have also taken longer due to the complexities of the project and in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the construction timeline on new toll-free Pattullo Bridge Replacement has been adjusted, moving the new bridge opening date into 2024.

The exact time in 2024 is being discussed with the Fraser Crossing Partners. A project update will be published once more information is available.

The new bridge will be cable-stayed, featuring one tower and two in-river piers, build just north and upstream of the existing bridge. It will have four-lanes built to modern safety standards, two-way pedestrian and cyclist facilities and wider lane widths to accommodate commercial vehicles. The project also includes network improvements in Surrey and New Westminster.

Once the new bridge is open in 2024, the existing bridge will be removed.

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