

Agricultural Land Commission

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17 November 2007

Reply to the attention of Tony Pellett

South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority 1600 · 4720 Kingsway Burnaby BC V5H 4N2

Attention: Fred Cummings · Vice President, Major Projects

Re: Application #0-35696 — Golden Ears Bridge project

The Provincial Agricultural Land Commission (the "Commission") has now reconsidered its original decision pertaining to the underpass proposed for the Hampton Farm in the vicinity of 128 Avenue.

By Resolution #2/2005, the Commission required that the underpass be constructed in accordance with the property-specific Commitments supplied with the application. The Commission understands that the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority ("TransLink") has recently reached an agreement with the owners of the forest nursery, the Hampton Farm and the Laity farm to construct a smaller underpass with a lesser function; the balance of the original function would be accommodated through installation of farmer-initiated "demand" signals at the 210 Street intersection from the outset of the project, rather than later as contemplated at the time of Resolution #2/2005.

The Commission understands that the advantage of the smaller underpass is that it can be located farther east in a location more favourable to the Hampton Farm, and that the more easterly location will make it easier to achieve the continuing requirement that the "dark" area of the forest nursery be shielded from light, notably from headlight beams as vehicles cross over the underpass and approach the bend in the road.

The Commission realizes that the original underpass was also supposed to have enabled the Laity Farm safer movement of farm equipment, but understands that it would probably not have been very effective and agrees that installation of "demand" signals will accommodate the original intent more effectively.

The Commission understands that all parties are in substantial agreement, hence the Commission has determined that it is not necessary to delay reconsideration in order to provide formal notification to all parties of its intent to reconsider Resolution #2/2005 in relation to the underpass specifications.

By **Resolution #677/2007**, the Commission has modified the decision recorded by Resolution #2/2005 so as to allow the requested smaller underpass in conjunction with installation of "demand" signals at the 210 Street intersection when that section of the Golden Ears Bridge project opens to traffic.

There is no change to the requirement that the underpass be lighted.

## A meeting was held by the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission on December 12, 2007 in its offices at Burnaby, B.C.

PRESENT:

Sylvia Pranger

Chair, South Coast Panel Commissioner

Michael Bose John Tomlinson

Commissioner

Tony Pellett Ron Wallace Staff Staff

## For Consideration

The South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority ("TransLink") has been cooperating with the owners of three farms regarding a more farm-friendly redesign of an underpass near 128 Avenue, proposed as part of the Golden Ears Bridge project and approved by Resolution #2/2005 in response to Application #0-35696. Resolution #2/2005 required that the underpass be constructed in accordance with the property-specific Commitments supplied with the application. The current proposal would result in a smaller underpass with a lesser function; the balance of the original function would be accommodated through installation of farmer-initiated "demand" signals at the 210 Street intersection from the outset of the project, rather than later as contemplated at the time of Resolution #2/2005.

## **Commission Discussion**

The Commissioners noted that the key to the proposed reconsideration is that TransLink is willing to accommodate farm transportation needs through the early installation of "demand" signals.

**IT WAS** 

MOVED BY:

Commissioner M. Bose

SECONDED BY:

Commissioner J. Tomlinson

THAT the Commission initiate further reconsideration of Application #O-35696;

AND THAT the Commission determine that the "interested persons" are TransLink, the District of Maple Ridge, the owner of the forest nursery, the owner of the Hampton Farm and the owners of the Laity Farm, who have directly or indirectly advised Commission staff that they are in support of the smaller underpass in conjunction with installation of "demand" signals at the 210 Street intersection when the project opens to traffic:

AND THAT the Commission now reconsider and modify the decision recorded by Resolution #2/2005 so as to allow the requested smaller underpass in conjunction with installation of "demand" signals at the 210 Street intersection on or before the date when that section of the Golden Ears Bridge project opens to traffic.

## CARRIED

Resolution # 677/2007