

NEWS RELEASE

Distributed October 21, 2014

Highway 19A/Northfield and Boundary intersection upgrade on hold for 2014

Summary

A project to undertake upgrades to the intersection at Highway 19A/Northfield and Boundary are currently on hold as the City pursues options to address a funding shortfall of \$800,000. The shortfall is the result of higher than expected costs associated with the active railroad crossing, scope of the storm infrastructure required, earthworks and paving.

Working in partnership with the Ministry of Transportation, the City has developed an intersection improvement concept that seeks to make the intersection safer and operate effectively for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists. To complete this concept, the City has budgeted approximately \$1,000,000. The Ministry of Transportation has cost shared 50:50 on the design, which was completed in the spring of 2014, and committed to a cost share of 50:50 on construction costs up to \$1,000,000. ICBC has also indicated that they can contribute \$95,000 to the project.

The revisited cost of the upgrade is estimated to be approximately \$2,900,000. To secure the additional \$800,000 in funding, the City will pursue grant opportunities and a review of the cost share agreement with the Ministry.

Strategic Link: Taking responsibility, Transportation and Mobility

Key Points

- The City of Nanaimo and the Ministry of Transportation are planning to upgrade the intersection of Hwy 19A/Northfield Road and Boundary Road; however, there is a project funding shortfall of \$800,000.
- The City will pursue additional funding sources to help bring this project to fruition.

Quotes

"Upgrading this intersection to make it safer and more functional is an important priority for the City of Nanaimo. Steps are being take to address the identified funding shortfall as quickly as possible."

Poul Rosen
Manager of Engineering Projects
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