



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF COURTENAY

BRIEFING NOTE TO COUNCIL

To: Council

File No.: 5335-20/5400-02

From: Chief Administrative Officer

Date: June 1, 2020

Subject: Update on 6th Street Multi-Use Active Transportation Bridge Project

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Briefing Note is to provide a progress report on the 6th Street Multi-Use Active Transportation Bridge Project, and to report on the status of the grant application for the recently completed Options Analysis.

BACKGROUND:

The January 27, 2020 presentation to Council detailed various options for the proposed 6th Street Multi-Use Bridge. The City of Courtenay is currently developing and evaluating these options for improving active transportation connections across the Courtenay River adjacent to downtown.

On February 3, 2020, Council provided the following direction to staff:

“That Council affirm the priority construction of the 6th Street multi-use pedestrian-bike bridge project and direct staff to include the 6th Street multi-use Pedestrian-bike Bridge project on the list of Council priorities.”

A 6th Street Multi-Use Bridge is included in the recently completed Parks & Recreation Master Plan and referenced in the Transportation Master Plan for the City of Courtenay. The bridge is listed as a long-term improvement in the Parks and Trails Master Plan. In addition, the Downtown Courtenay Playbook also notes an additional crossing at 6th Street should be explored further.

A 6th Street Multi-Use Bridge would provide a dedicated cycling and pedestrian connection between downtown and Simms Millennium Park as well as a connection to the future cycling network along 6th Street and Anderton Avenue, the Courtenay Riverway Trail, and the Lewis Park pathway connection to the Lewis Centre.

UPDATE:

The scope of work for 2020 will include a Detailed Options Analysis which will advance the design of the four previously studied options, and of the connections to the existing walking and cycling infrastructure on each side of the bridge. High-level stakeholder engagement will also take place. This report will summarize all work done to date, and recommend a preferred option for Council’s consideration to move forward into detailed design.

1. Approved Grant Funding

On February 28, 2020, the City received confirmation that the application for grant funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Green Municipal Fund for the recently completed 6th

Street Bridge Options Analysis/Feasibility Study was successful. The grant will fund approximately 50% of the study, or \$29,300. The study was presented to Council on January 27, 2020.

2. Request For Proposal – Detailed Options Analysis

On May 4, the City issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a formal competitive public procurement process to secure a qualified engineering design consultant to develop the Detailed Options Analysis. This analysis will help inform Council’s decision on which bridge option to select for detailed design.

3. Potential Additional Funding

As work on the project progresses, efforts to identify potential additional funding sources will continue. There may be opportunity for further FCM grant funding through the Green Municipal Fund for both detailed design and construction of the bridge.

In addition to obtaining grant funding, there may be opportunities to partner with local community groups and clubs to help fund the project.

NEXT STEPS

1. Q2/Q3 of 2020 - Proceed with procurement for consulting services, and development of the Detailed Options Analysis.
2. Q4 of 2020 - Report back to Council on findings of Detailed Options Analysis.
3. Q4 of 2020 - Council to provide direction to proceed or not with Detailed Design of 6th St Bridge, and direction on style of bridge (which bridge option) subject to budget approval.
4. Q1 of 2021 – Pending Council direction, proceed with procurement for consulting services, and development of the Detailed Design.

PROJECT BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

Major project phases and estimated costs are planned to proceed as per the below table:

BUDGET		
Year	Estimated Cost	Phase
2020	\$50,000	Detailed Options Analysis
2021	\$150,000	Detailed Design and Permitting
2022	\$4,000,000	Construction

PROJECT SCHEDULE

A preliminary project schedule is presented below. This schedule is subject to Council’s decision to proceed, available funding, and design and construction timelines.

If Council decides to proceed with the project, the detailed design and permitting for the bridge would likely take up to one year to complete.

Construction would be expected to last five to seven months depending on the preferred concept, and would be scheduled to align with environmental construction windows. To minimize impacts to the community and better manage the City’s internal capacity, if approved, construction on the project is recommended for 2022, after the Fifth Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project is completed.

SCHEDULE												
Deliverable	2020				2021				2022			
	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun	Jul – Sept	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun	Jul – Sept	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun	Jul – Sept	Oct – Dec
Procurement for Detailed Options												
Detailed Options Analysis												
Procurement for Detailed Design												
Detailed Design and Permitting												
Tender Process												
Construction												

Prepared by:



Chris Davidson, P.Eng.
 Director of Engineering Services

Reviewed by:



Trevor Kushner, BA, DLGM, CLGA
 Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Concurrence by:



David Allen, BES, CLGEM, SCLGM
 Chief Administrative Officer