

GATEWAY PROGRAM

South Fraser Perimeter Road Traffic Management Consultation Technical Response

Re: Traffic Management Consultation

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's Gateway Program is committed to incorporating feedback from stakeholder organizations, where feasible and appropriate, in developing the Traffic Management Plan for South Fraser Perimeter Road (SFPR).

Contractors carrying out the construction of SFPR will be required to include recommendations from Traffic Management Consultation in developing the Traffic Management Plan, which will be approved by the Ministry before construction begins. The Traffic Management Plan will consider all aspects of traffic management during construction, including specific traffic control plans to address safety, planned closures, potential unplanned closures or incidents, and vehicle mobility.

The following provides the Ministry's responses to the key themes raised during Traffic Management Consultation for SFPR, which took place in May 2008:

Proposed traffic delay times: Most participants supported the proposed construction activity hours when minor delays (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and major delays (7 p.m. to 6 a.m.) can be permitted. These will be used as the basis for the construction work and the traffic management plan.

Co-ordination of traffic delay times with local school travel: Some participants expressed concern over the 9 a.m. start time and 3 p.m. end time for minor delays. It was suggested that 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. would be more acceptable, to allow for local school travel. On roads heavily used during the 'school run' planning will take this into account during development of the contractor's Traffic Management Plan.

Co-ordination of traffic management for SFPR and Port Mann Highway 1 Project: The project team will require the SFPR contractor to co-ordinate with PMH1 and other works occurring in the area to ensure no conflicts occur that would result in undue delays.

Minor traffic delays in off-peak hours on major streets: In general, the feedback received confirms the Ministry's schedule for minor delays. There is particular sensitivity to any delays on River Road, Nordel Way, 120th Street/Scott Road and Hwy 10/Ladner Trunk Road. During the development of the Traffic Management Plan, these roads will receive special attention and provision for adjusting the time periods for minor delays.

Minor traffic delays in off-peak hours on municipal roads: In general, the feedback received confirms the Ministry's schedule for minor delays. There is particular sensitivity to any delays on 104th Avenue, Old Yale Road, Hopcott Road and Tilbury Road. During the development of the Traffic Management Plan, these roads will receive special attention and provision for adjusting the time periods for minor delays.

Minor traffic delays on Highway 17: Most participants supported our proposed schedule for acceptable delays. The project team notes the first ferry sailing departs from Tsawwassen to Swartz Bay at 7 a.m. During the development of the Traffic Management Plan, weekday southbound delays will be adjusted from the proposed 6 a.m. end time to a 5 a.m. end time, to allow for morning ferry traffic.

Traffic Communications: Participant feedback highlighted the importance of public awareness, advanced notification and frequent updates of traffic information and related

construction activity. The majority of respondents highly favour online updates, regular e-mails and electronic message signs placed on the road as methods to receive traffic update information.

To help keep the public informed, the project is committed to providing weekly traffic notifications and construction updates on the Gateway Program website (www.gatewayprogram.bc.ca) in addition to weekly traffic notification e-mails to stakeholders with information regarding expected delay times, specific locations and related construction activity.

The project will also require use of electronic message signs to provide drivers with advance notification of locations where traffic pattern changes are planned, inform them of approximate waiting times and promote driver safety.