

## **Vedder Bridge Replacement Project – FAQ's**

### **1) Why is the bridge only two traffic lanes wide?**

Preliminary designs were completed to consider road and bridge options then evaluated to determine the most suitable design. Although the 4 lane road and bridge option could deliver improved levels of service during the peak summer weekend traffic out to 2051, this option results in a doubling of the project cost. As such the study recommended a 2-lane bridge with roundabout to provide Level of Service 'A' during the off peak times (September to May) for a 40 year service life.

### **2) Will the Rotary Trail parking lot be affected?**

In order to accommodate the new bridge and road alignment downstream from the existing bridge and for construction of the roundabout at Chilliwack Lake Road and Vedder Road the existing Rotary Parking Lot is being relocated approximately 200m west with an expansion of the existing parking area adjacent to the Vedder Park Off-Leash Dog Park.

### **3) Will the bridge include bike lanes?**

Yes, the new bridge will include wider travel lanes and shoulders along with two 3.7m wide multi-use pathways to accommodate pedestrian and cyclist traffic that will provide a safe and comfortable connection to the Vedder/Rotary Trail and form part of the national TransCanada Trail.

### **4) Why did the City choose a Roundabout for the Chilliwack Lake Road intersection?**

The proposed roundabout will result in less vehicle delay at the intersection compared to the existing all-way stop control and will result in lower fuel consumption and emissions. Also, speeds are slower and more uniform at roundabouts, with less starting and stopping, and less idling.

### **5) Why can't the City keep the old bridge?**

The old bridge is not suitable to remain in place as it does not have sufficient clearance above the 200 year flood event, the cost of maintenance will be an ongoing burden and it does not meet current seismic standards and could compromise the new bridge and utilities services during a seismic event.

### **6) Are you adding sewer capacity to satisfy the needs of the Soowhalie First Nation and the communities of Cultus Lake and Columbia Valley?**

The existing sewer will be relocated to the new bridge and has capacity to accommodate future service to residents along Vedder Mountain Road within the City of Chilliwack. This has not been sized for future servicing of Soowhalie First Nation nor Cultus Lake as the downstream upgrades required to the City's sewer system and treatment plant to accommodate this additional population within the Fraser Valley Regional District makes this option unfeasible.

### **7) Will the new bridge be vulnerable to damage from high water and debris flows?**

The new bridge is being designed to have 1.5m clearance above the recently updated Vedder River hydraulic profile elevation for the 200 year storm event in order to allow for debris clearance during high flows.