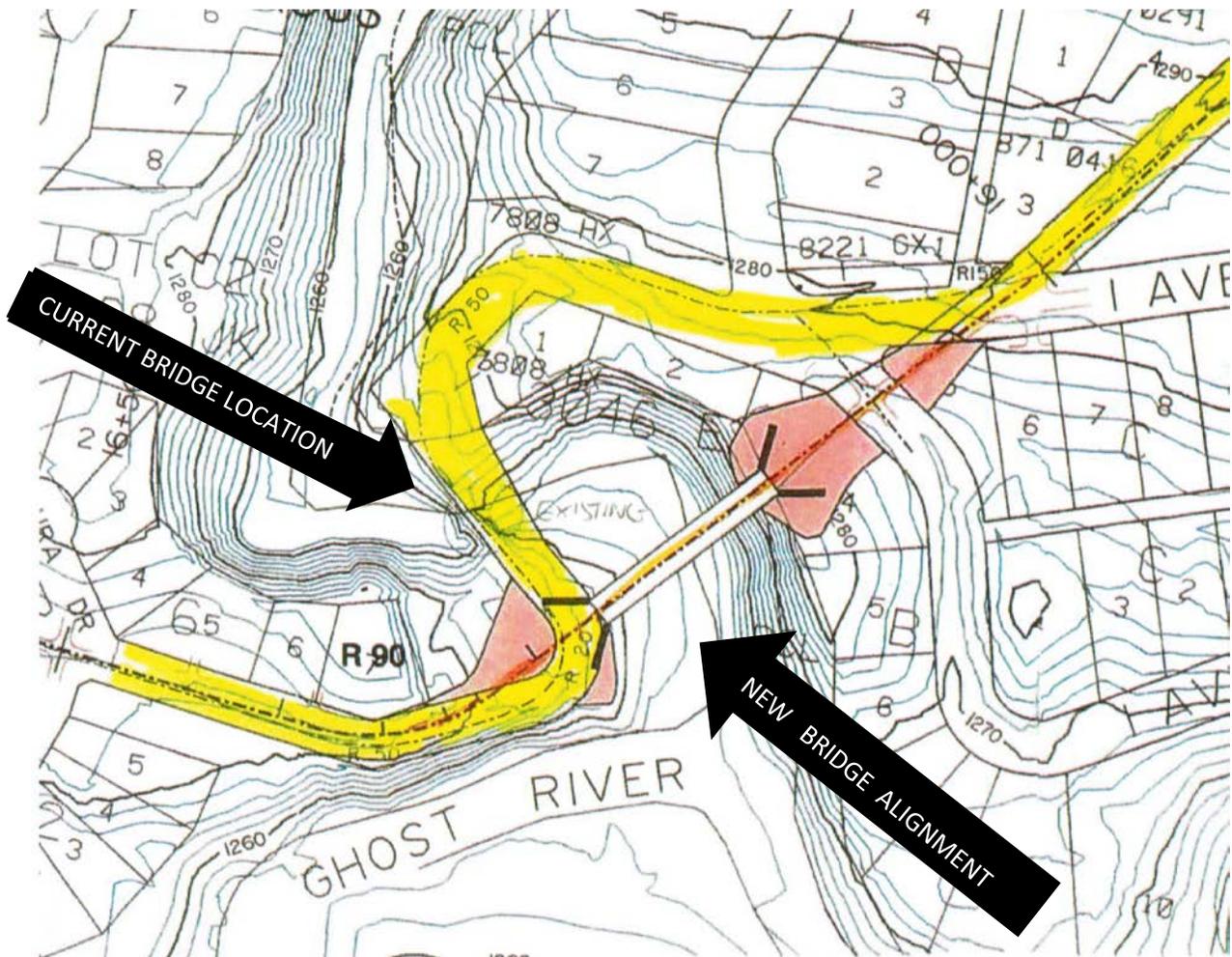


Summer Village of Waiparous

Province Moves Forward with Bridge Replacement

The Province of Alberta has recently informed the Summer Village of Waiparous council that due to the structural life and declining condition of the existing Highway 40 bridge located inside the Summer Village of Waiparous that a **new bridge structure has been added** to the Alberta Transportation Construction Program. Subject to funding, they are anticipating **construction to be completed in 2021**. The Province has engaged a consultant to commence the design component of the new bridge based on the **alignment that was recommended in the *Hwy 40 Functional Planning Study from Highway 1A to Highway 579* dated 2001**. (see sketch)

The proposed bridge will be an **urban design standard** and will **accommodate pedestrian traffic** to allow for linkages to Waiparous' trail system. Following is a preliminary sketch outlining the existing bridge alignment and the new bridge alignment.



A consultant has recently been engaged by the Province to provide them with a review of the Functional Planning Study and advise them of any concerns or minor modifications. We have been told that the intent of the review **is not to look at other alignment options but to review and report on the recommended new alignment only.**

The consultant will develop a preliminary engineering report complete with cost estimates and a recommendation of the structure that would be carried forward to detailed design. The preliminary report will also include:

- Geometric and roadway design within 1 km of the bridge, including drainage measures;
- Site survey and geotechnical investigation;
- Environmental evaluation for the bridge crossing and new roadway;
- Consultation with First Nations; and
- Historic resources overview and historical resources impact assessment (if required).

Alberta Transportation will hold a **Public Information session** to present the preliminary design information as it relates to traffic, access to and through the summer village and impact on the environment and adjacent land owners. The information session is anticipated to occur in late summer or early fall of 2017.

Alberta Transportation representatives have advised us that this project is **under Provincial jurisdiction as it is located on a Provincial highway.**

The future bridge alignment has been a topic of discussion between the summer village council, the Province and residents for several decades and Council was under the impression that the bridge replacement would not be looked at for several years, even decades. Council only recently became aware of Alberta Transportation's plan to proceed this year with the preliminary report through a request made to the Province about installing a pedestrian annex beside the existing bridge and then from Mayor Anderson noticing the tender for consultants when reviewing the government tender list. Written confirmation of their intent to proceed with the preliminary report was received by the Summer Village this week.

Alberta Transportation indicated that the project has been moved to the forefront predominately due to the age and declining condition of the existing bridge. Council reps recently met with Alberta Transportation and have been assured that Alberta Transportation will maintain ongoing communication with the Summer Village and will seek Council's input during the preliminary report and design phase on items such as traffic, safety and accesses. They have advised the Summer Village that the alignment has been predetermined and that they are **not seeking Council's input on alternate alignments.**

The Summer Village will send out email updates of the project to residents, as more information becomes available. Please ensure that administration has your current email address.

Any questions residents may have regarding the proposed new bridge and the design work should be directed to Mr. Ralph Witten, Bridge Manager at ralph.witten@gov.ab.ca or (403) 382-4061 and inquiries regarding property acquisition should be directed to Mr. Theo Van Evelingen at theo.vanevelingen@gov.ab.ca or (403) 297-8620.

Summer Village of Waiparous Council
March 22, 2017