



August 15, 2017

Cameron Westhead, MLA
102, 721 Main Street
PO Box 8650
Canmore, AB T1W 0B9

Delivered via email: Banff.Cochrane@assembly.ab.ca

Dear Mr. Westhead:

Re: Highway 40 Proposed New Bridge

Firstly, the Road Committee for the Summer Village of Waiparous would like to thank you for listening to our bridge presentation at the annual picnic on July 22nd. We truly appreciated the effort you made to schedule it into your busy Saturday.

Two days later, Mayor Larry Anderson, Councilor Matthew Sundal along with the Road Committee met with representatives of Alberta Transportation (AT) and its consultants (HATCH and AMEC) on plans for the proposed new bridge in the Village. The meeting was cordial and included time for questions and concerns.

After hearing their presentation, Mayor Anderson, expressed his vehement opposition to the proposed alignment and offered the current location as a less objectionable alternative. Mayor Anderson, Councilor Sundal, and The Road Committee then asked specific questions and listed our many concerns. For instance some of the concerns included:

- Up to 8% loss of property taxes (potential \$12K a year financial impact based on appropriating 6 properties).
- Loss of road access for property owners off highway 40.
- Concerns of vulnerable users in crosswalks as well as paths to & over the bridge.
- Overall safety as there is no police force within the Municipality.

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- The Village is not a typical urban area, it is environmentally sensitive where 2 waterways confluence into one in the area of the bridge. Minimal clearing, no curbs and no gutters are requested.
- Historical issues at the confluence of 2 rivers & a multi-generational property.

AT listened and acquiesced by allowing the future study to look at current and alternate alignments. However, they did not confirm that they would look into Social Impacts such as safety of vulnerable pedestrian users. Plus, we were disappointed in their lack of knowledge of the Village topography and layout. They did affirm they would meet with the Village representatives again after the preliminary design stage to go over specific design modifications.

Thus, we are cautiously working towards a mutually beneficial new bridge that works for residents as well as travelers. At the end of the year most of the studies they are conducting will be finished. At that critical moment, we expect some compromises and alterations to be made on the bridge design, location and roadway.

We wanted to keep you in the loop with this situation. Thank you again for your time and attention to this critical matter for the future of the Summer Village of Waiparous.

Sincerely,

SUMMER VILLAGE OF WAIPAROUS

for: Highway 40 Road Committee

Cc Mayor Larry Anderson
Councillor Matthew Sundal
Sharon Plett, Municipal Administrator