

**Delta/VPA Roberts Bank Working Group**  
June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Meeting

In attendance from:

**Delta**

Mayor Jackson  
Counsellor Getner  
George Harvie  
Les King  
Ian Radnidge  
Tom Leathem  
Verne Kucy  
Bernita Iversen  
Tim Murphy  
John Dumont

**Ministry of Transport**

Wayne Keiser

**VPA**

Patrick McLaughlin  
Mark Griggs  
Dennis Bickel

**Fraser Gateway**

Dan Gould

**Translink**

Mike Lai

**Transport Canada**

Mimi Sukhdeo

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**1. Introductions**

George Harvie introduced Tom Leathem who is the new Manager of Long Range Planning and Special Projects.

**2. Road Studies Update**

Dennis Bickel described the initiatives of the Transportation sub committee and the work that is underway related to the Highway 17 assessment. This phase of work is part of a larger corridor review being undertaken of the South Fraser Perimeter Road extension from Highway 91 to Highway 17. The Highway 17 study will also include an assessment of traffic conditions associated with Deltaport Way and Ladner Trunk Road. Preliminary results will be ready in early July with the final report completed by the end of July. The study will examine problems with the current corridor and review operations to 2011. The next phase will look at solutions that will be developed by the various agencies.

Dan Gould confirmed that his Ministry was aware of Delta's "Significant Road Issues" map and that the focus begin with studies related to Highway 17. He stated that if the problems can not be solved within the existing corridors, then other options would be examined.

George Harvie advised that Delta staff would be ready by the end of the summer to let the Ministry of Transportation know where the location of the South Fraser Perimeter Road extension would connect with Highway 99. He indicated that this was a key issue with Council.

Ian Radnidge advised that staff had made a presentation to Mayor and Council on June 19<sup>th</sup> regarding transportation corridor issues and this was available on their website.

Preliminary results of the South Fraser Perimeter Road extension study, including the Highway 17 study, will be ready to review with Delta Council in September.

## **2. Consultation Program Update**

Mark Griggs provided an update on the consultation program and distributed a three page summary of activities undertaken to date. A copy of this update is on VPA's website. He indicated that residents who attended the two open houses in May were pleased to be able to identify their concerns early in the planning process. The major comments made at the open houses involved traffic concerns and VPA had been following up directly with a number of groups on this matter.

Patrick McLaughlin confirmed that a letter had been sent to Delta clarifying that future traffic improvements "will" be required as a result of the proposed terminal expansion. George Harvie requested that the letter also be sent to Mayor and Council.

## **3. Environmental Studies Update**

Patrick McLaughlin provided an update on the studies program. Three studies had been initiated and include the marine habitat survey, the air quality study, and the bird habitat study. Once the consultants are selected, the first task will be to prepare a detailed work program which is then finalized by the BC Environment Assessment Office. This would provide an opportunity for Delta to participate in the development each work plan.

The process to start the oceanography studies will begin in July. Patrick McLaughlin responded to a question that there is no dredging taking place now.

Les King asked about the status of the rail studies. Patrick McLaughlin responded that the rail simulation study would determine future rail infrastructure, support track and requirements for an additional rail siding along the main line. This work would allow detailed assessments to be undertaken of the grade crossings in Delta which would not occur until later this year. Les King indicated that Delta would like to be part of the solution phase before they are put forward for consideration.

Mark Griggs said a presentation of the rail simulation work would be arranged for the transportation sub committee.

**4. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 1pm on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The focus of this meeting would include an update of the Highway 17 study and Delta services such as fire and police requirements. It was agreed that there would not be a meeting in August but that meetings would resume in September.

Mayor Jackson thanked all the participants for being at the meeting and acknowledged the progress of the work being undertaken related to the traffic issues in Delta.