



February 6, 2009

Councillor Kim Richter
Township of Langley
65 Avenue, Suite 20338
Langley BC V2Y 3J1

Reference: 177261

Dear Councillor Richter:

Re: Roberts Bank Rail Corridor - 64th Avenue Overpass at Highway 10

I would like to express my and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's support for the Roberts Bank Rail Corridor (RBRC) - 64th Avenue Rail Overpass at Highway 10 Project in the Township of Langley.

As you know, the need for an east-west connection has been discussed for many years by all levels of government and was not developed solely for the RBRC Program. Previous studies have indicated the need for improved east-west connectivity which will help facilitate the movement of vehicle traffic in both the Township and City and the region. I believe that the overpass proposed as part of the RBRC program not only meets these connectivity needs but also helps serve the region by allowing for the improved movement of emergency vehicles and goods and services.

The proposed project has been reviewed by the Agriculture Land Commission (ALC). They have given their approval to the recommended alignment, with conditions that can be met under the scope of the project. The ALC has also reviewed other possible overpass options and made it clear this proposal delivers the least amount of impact to local agriculture.

I am aware of a new residents-developed option; however, based on my understanding of the proposal, it does not serve the broader needs of the Township and City and would negatively impact a number of environmentally sensitive areas. This option would not be supported by the Province and, I understand, is not being supported by the City of Langley.

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I certainly appreciate that the decision regarding the proposed overpass project rests with your municipality. I would, however, like to ensure that the overall value of the proposed project both to the community and the wider region is recognized. A significant amount of study and analysis has gone into the development of what we believe is the most appropriate alignment.

Should the Township ultimately decide not to proceed with the proposed alignment I will respect that decision and allocate the funding to other priorities in the Province.

Yours sincerely,



Kevin Falcon
Minister

Copy to: Honourable Rich Coleman
Minister of Housing and Social Development
MLA, Fort Langley-Aldergrove

Honourable Mary Polak
Minister of Healthy Living and Sport
MLA, Langley

His Worship
Mayor Peter Fassbender
City of Langley