

NO: **R107**

COUNCIL DATE: **May 28, 2012**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **May 24, 2012**

FROM: **General Manager, Engineering**

PROJECT FILE: **1708-057/B**

SUBJECT: **Roberts Bank Rail Corridor Program – Construction of a new Road (Colebrook Road) between 131A Street and King George Boulevard - Panorama Ridge Whistle Cessation Project**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Engineering Department recommends that Council:

1. Endorse, as part of the Roberts Bank Rail Corridor Program, the construction of a new road (Colebrook Road) between 131A Street and King George Boulevard aligned along the north side of and immediately adjacent to the BC Railway right-of-way; and
2. Approve the sale and dedication as road allowance of the lands located within Panorama Park that are required to accommodate this new road and its related works.

BACKGROUND

Under the Agreement-in-Principle related to the Roberts Banks Rail Corridor Program (“the Program”), signed by the City of Surrey and the other Program Funding Partners in 2007, it was contemplated that railway grade separations would be constructed under the Program at 152 Street, 168 Street, 192 Street, 54 Avenue and 196 Street. Preliminary engineering studies subsequently determined that the 168 Street project was not viable and an alternative was identified that would achieve the objective to create an uninterrupted 3650-metre (12,000-foot) railway siding by means of the construction of a new Colebrook Road along the north side of and immediately adjacent to the railway right-of-way between 131A Street and King George Boulevard (as illustrated on the map attached as Appendix I). This would allow the closing of two level rail crossings in this section. The existing Colebrook Road (on the south side of the railway right-of-way) will also remain as a local farm access road.

The grade separation and road works, along with minor improvements at several other level crossings, would result in the added benefit of achieving train whistling cessation throughout the Panorama Ridge area of Surrey. Council approved of the substitution of Colebrook Road construction (“the Project”) to replace the 168 Street Railway Grade Separation project conditional on support from the residents of Panorama Ridge. A public open house was held in Panorama Ridge to present the Project and to solicit public comment/input. The open house was attended by 26 individuals. Those present at the open house voiced strong support for the Project. This

included two representatives of the Panorama Ridge Ratepayer's Association. This community support was clearly linked with the prospect of achieving train whistling cessation at the joint BC Railway, BNSF Railway level crossing at 127A Street.

The new Colebrook Road including road works, drainage, and environmental compensation works and planting areas as required by the conditions under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act requires property from Panorama Park and acquisition of some other private property along the proposed alignment. All of the necessary property will be purchased by the Program and will be dedicated as road allowance. The proceeds of the sale of the areas that are required from Panorama Park will be deposited in the City's Parkland Acquisition Reserve to be used by the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department in acquiring other parkland in the City. The construction of new road on the north side of and immediately adjacent to the Railway right-of-way will provide improved access to Panorama Park.

The Project is being funded by Transport Canada, Port Metro Vancouver and B.C. Railway Company. The City's contribution to the project will consist of staff time to administer the design and construction of the Project, as the delivery agent of the funding partners.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

In alignment with the goals of the City's Sustainability Charter, the Project will enhance the public realm by allowing for the elimination of train whistling in the Panorama Ridge area of the City and will assist in enhancing accessibility within the City. As such, the proposed new road will support the following Sustainability Charter scope actions:

- SC 13: Creating a Fully Accessible City; and
- EN 13: Enhancing the Public Realm.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council:

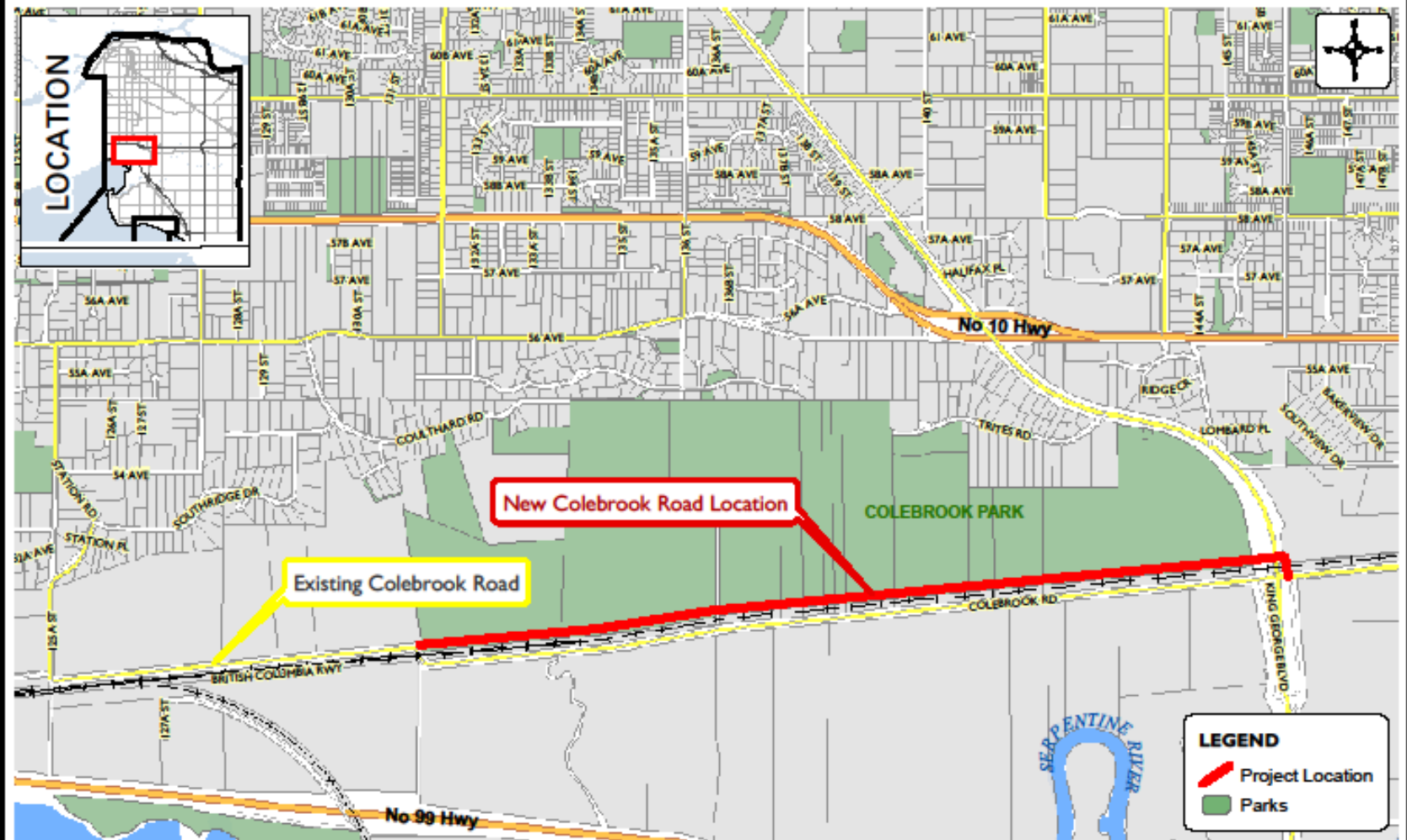
- Endorse, as part of the Roberts Bank Rail Corridor Program, the construction of a new road (Colebrook Road) between 131A Street and King George Boulevard aligned along the north side of and immediately adjacent to the BC Railway right-of-way; and
- Approve the sale and dedication as road allowance of the lands located within Panorama Park that are required to accommodate the new road and its related works.

Vincent Lalonde, P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering

VL/KZ/PZ/brb

Appendix I – Map of New Colebrook Road

APPENDIX I



Produced by GIS Section: May 24, 2012, JJR



ROBERTS BANK RAIL CORRIDOR PROGRAM PANORAMA RIDGE WHISTLE-CESSATION PROJECT

**ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT**

The data provided is compiled from various sources and IS NOT warranted as to its accuracy or sufficiency by the City of Surrey.
This information is provided for information and convenience purposes only.
Lot sizes, legal descriptions and encumbrances must be confirmed at the Land Title Office.

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