



Memorandum

Office of the City Clerk
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TO: Members of Council
FROM: Krista Power, City Clerk
DATE: February 1, 2022
**SUBJECT: Additional Information
Committee of the Whole – Special Session (2022 Capital and Operating
Budget) – February 1, 2022**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – SPECIAL SESSION (2022 CAPITAL AND
OPERATING BUDGET MEETINGS)**

Additional Information

1. Memorandum from Councillor Mark Bentz, dated January 28, 2022 containing a motion relative to Amendment to Budget – Vickers/Carrick Street Bridge.

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Memorandum

TO: Krista Power, City Clerk

FROM: Councillor Mark Bentz

DATE: January 28, 2022

SUBJECT: Increase in Budget – Deferral of Project - Budget Motion
Committee of the Whole – Special Session (Budget) – February 1, 2022

The Infrastructure and Operations budget includes a bridge project that is to be designed in 2022 and is anticipated to be constructed in a future budget; the entire project is estimated to cost in excess of \$2.5 million. The proposed pedestrian bridge will connect Vickers and Carrick Streets and span the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway adjacent to an existing bridge owned by CN Rail. Given that the one rail line has been removed from this structure and it may be possible for it to also accommodate a pedestrian crossing, I believe that a partnership with CN should be explored which would reduce the cost of such a crossing significantly. My hope is that we can work with CN to determine and address their concerns to create a win-win partnership that benefits both the community and CN.

It is my request that City Council defer the design work on this project until 2023 and reallocate the \$120,000 allotted for standalone bridge design in the 2022 budget to recreation trail maintenance, an item that currently has no funding allocated to it in this budget. This would allow time for the city to establish dialog with CN Rail and potentially move into negotiations. Partnerships are a key strategy in our efforts to create synergies and lower the cost of services for ratepayers. As such, it would be prudent to develop such a partnership with this important corporate citizen.

The following budget motion is provided for council's consideration.

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2022 (Corporate Services & Long-Term Care – Financial Services) we recommend that the Infrastructure and Operations budget be amended by reallocating the \$120,000 allocated for the Vickers/Carrick Street bridge design to the recreational trail maintenance budget;

AND THAT the design work be deferred until 2023 to allow for further negotiations and work to establish a partnership with CN to achieve a joint crossing on the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway;

AND THAT Administration, with the assistance the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee as needed, pursue dialog with CN Rail to explore such a partnership.