

**PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE, SEWER UTILITY CROSSING/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public attending the Open House on the Sewer Utility Crossing/Pedestrian Bridge Project, February 16, 2012, had the option to complete feedback forms for input on construction mitigations, landscaping and trail connectivity, and to provide general comments. Individuals could complete as many forms as they wished.

The feedback received will help form part of the landscaping and construction mitigation plans. The feedback has also been presented verbatim to Council and has been transcribed here, verbatim. Any names given were removed from this record to meet the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act*.

Construction Mitigation Comments

Could the access path on the south side line up more closely with road between the Y and Riverview Court?
Concern over power outages and generator problems. There's no parking on Buffalo Street.
Make the bridge match existing bridge so it's not so obvious "Rundle Rock Colour".
For visitors it would destroy a river walk unimpeded by commercialism from Banff Avenue. Build it in Central Park.
Wrong spot! - Fix the sewer with grant money. *Should be bridge connecting*Central Park to Rec /Sundance *What a wonderful way to showcase Banff.
Don't feel temporary 'noise' is a significant factor. We were "refreshed" on Banff Avenue for 2 years.
Do it as quickly as possible start on Banff Springs side where it is less populated.
I feel you have looked into the construction aspect quite well.
Good signage to integrate Muskrat bridge into trail system.
Build the most part of the bridge with an overhead cable crane with an electric motor to minimize machine noise from big cranes etc.
No additional suggestions - support integrated approach to pipeline/pedestrian bridge
Great - Thanks!
Get on with it (Wherever it makes most sense)!
Construction during fall months to avoid heavy traffic/congestion.
Dump all waste in neighbours yards! Just joking around.
Looks as good as can be.
Don't park in front of our homes (the construction of the Sather house has driven us nuts for 2 years now).
Public Notice.
Pipe should be under the existing bridge!
Why is there a done deal? I HOPE NOT!
Bury the pipe.
Add a pedestrian width existing sidewalks.
This is not a good idea. It is a gross waste of money and will never be used to any amount that would justify the huge amount of money being spent. The plan you have is a waste of money and not wanted by the people of Banff.
My problem is after the construction is complete, why leave the rotten pipes in the ground? If they need to be replaced, replace them. If they can be considered to be a liable back up source well then it sounds like to me they don't need replacing!
Fix the sewers pipe. No bridge.

Be realistic with option 2-trench wide, existing path, not along river bank.
Keep in gravity run so no need for noisy generator.
Don't construct it!
New sewer repair. No bridge on muskrat crossing.
Replace sewer pipes-Lots of viable options and they are being overlooked. TOTAL WASTE OF MONEY PUTTING THIS PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE IN THIS LOCATION.
Fix the pipe and cancel the bridge. It is not a "FREE BRIDGE"
Don't build bridge at the Muskrat St. location. Move the sewer lines to the existing bridge and if necessary-expand the existing bridge or build pedestrian bridge right beside it.
I think the bridge is a good idea.
Get the plans and funding in place and then get to work on it. In fact I think a lot of the work could be done in the winter when the river is running low.

Landscaping Comments

It doesn't sound like a peaceful river path anymore.
Clean up the deadfall along the river path and put the pipe to the other bridge, then replant trees.
Washroom needed.
You won't need these amenities built in Central Park location.
Rec ground crossing.
Please make sure bridge deck is non slip material.
Interpretive displays - Links to the Banff Centre.
Interpretive opportunities , pedestrian maps to integrate with trail system.
Aesthetics: can it be covered in small stone like the old bridge - so blend in more with the river environment. Look a little less metro, a little more park-y
Landscaping along pathway from Muskrat to bow river path to allow for privacy for neighbouring homes.
If we are going to put in a bridge it is important that we make sure we do it right by making it appealing to the eye.
Don't encourage lingering with respect to residents in the area. Encourage moving over bridge and carrying on.
Trail from Central Park to bridge should be illuminated. It is very dark at night and many elk/wildlife are in that area.
Platform or concrete base for future public art/sculpture installation.
Interpretive panels.
Significant trail signage (i.e.. Banff refreshing) because this bridge will be more of a destination than other trail facilities.
Bury the pipe.
Council must start paying attention to what the tax payers are telling them and get rid of the pipe dreams.
From the Banff Ave bridge to Muskrat Street along the river, the whole place is a disaster, garbage everywhere.
For heavens sake, why? Keep it simple!! Just have the bridge lit. Why does everything have to be groomed within an inch of its life!?
Town grounds personnel to pick up additional litter and garbage.

These things are already in Central Park.
Hedges for affected residents widen sidewalks-Buffalo/Muskrat. Handicap Access-how do you manage the angle of the bridge in a wheel chair.
We already have all this at Central park, where bridge should be if you are determined go ahead.
No picnic tables.
Please No picnic tables. Path lighting is not needed only bridge lighting. Benches if needed can be provided by private funding.
sidewalk construction on Buffalo St.
Speed control (gates or other mechanisms) ramps and trails
Regular foot/bike patrol by officers (daylight hours only)
Better sidewalk on road between Y and Riverview Court (goes from spray Ave. to Glen Ave.)
No Skate borders - i.e. Not at night or speeding bikes. Checks on parties at night.
Will there be shopping carts and garbage thrown in to river? There will be cigarette butts
Hedges collect garbage. How much is installing light on the river path going to cost?
I think the bridge would need a night patrol by police than a day patrol
You won't need many of these amenities in Central Park.
Where is the access to Spray Avenue etc. from the south side? - Sidewalk construction on Buffalo Street and Glen Avenue
All above - but pedestrian bridge only make sense Rec ground to Central Park
As a handicapped person my concern is the threat of a speeding biker skateboard coming up unexpectedly while I'm pushing my walker
I totally support Muskrat Street for 1) Sewer pipes 2) Ambulance 3) Bridge for pedestrian and children
There are illuminated hand rail system available rather than light all the bottom of bridge where they get covered with snow
Efforts to minimize disturbance to residents on Buffalo street . Efforts to minimize conflicts between cyclists/ pedestrians - no cycling speed ramp!
I like the attempts to mitigate the impacts of the lighting - its necessary but needs to be low key
If residents have issues with activity at night patrolling or other security measures should be considered - although not sure if this deserves more attention than Spray Avenue or control park at night when it comes to risks at night. Bike dismount for crossing
We get a lot of tourists so the more safety features we have the better!
Trail to bridge should be p---d! I have seen other bridges in a bad transition to gravel as the gravel will be tracked away. I love the plan of low level lighting in the railings. Trail rights should be low level as well.
Is there a drag line for people that jump/fall off bridge to stop them from going over Bow Falls?
Bicycle gates are ridiculous. Never implement these devices. Let common sense prevail
Night is when patrol is needed- 1am to 3 am
You make is sound like its going ahead- Even if we the residents are very opposed??
Bury the pipe.
Replace the old 1968 pipes crossing the river with newly engineered sewer double-lines pipe which would last for 50-80 years. Put this pipe right where the old pipes are now.
If the bridge goes in a sidewalk on Buffalo must be built otherwise from the increase of pedestrians the lawns will be trenched. An increase of privacy must be met because this area is a residential area and not a tourist attraction.
Keep it simple-Only have lighting on the bridge. Will it have designated lanes?
Fencing or hedging stone walls!! - Sidewalk construction on Buffalo street ⇒ Will the town maintain

the sidewalk or will it be passed on to the residents - Speed control (gates or other mechanisms) on ramps and trails ⇒ Gates required to prevent motorcycles. Lighting on paths on both sides will be required. Security cameras? - Regular foot/bike patrol by peace officers (daylight hour only) ⇒ inadequate! problem will be at night even if there is an attempt to close it at night. Perhaps fact in 0.25 of an additional RCMP officer or 0.5 for additional bylaw officer.

Move the pipes under the existing bridge. Losing the already dead and lying down trees will be a benefit.

Lots of infrastructure in place at original Central Park if bridge needed.

General comments

I think this is a GREAT idea! Best of luck!

Concerned about Elk calving.

Order of preference - 1.hang pipe off existing bridge + improve pedestrian/cyclist path on this bridge
2. Muskrat Street Location 3. Nothing.

We need a pedestrian bridge nor an ambulance bridges. Everything has cost over run - especially the longer you put it off. It's not FREE.

Fence on the bridge to prevent garbage from being thrown over

My son's bench is directly across the river in line with where I believe the entrance of the bridge will be. I wonder what will happen to it.

Whatever the bridge looks like if possible be able to carry vehicles when necessary. Really there should be another proper bridge to cope with the population over there, --- --- it would be lovely to have a pretty little bridge ---- but it is much more --- ---- the safety point of view to have 2 adequate bridges. The population of the far side is too big nor to be given an adequate escape if necessary.

This town already has enough late night noise issues without spreading them around especially considering the Muskrat location. Also there is talk about **the bridge being used for emergency vehicles , its that true? Good idea.** As much as it would save money to combine 2 projects I still firmly believe that **the bridge should be Park to Park.**

I want the bridge from Central park to rec ground.

I'd prefer the bridge across from Central Park. We don't like seeing people crossing at the ice and no one would use it compared to usage on the other side.

The Central park/ rec. grounds is the better location. However I understand why we are going in the direction we are. Why not just build 2 bridges.

I'm for construction of a new raised crossing with pedestrian bridge built further north through the recreation grounds. What is cost difference please include parking, sanitary waste , restrooms on either side. Is there enough room to contain these facilities on Muskrat Street and the other side . Give me the cost comparisons to both locations. Don't tell us your going to get government grants to support your version; besides if you can get them they should apply in either location. Question for council - 1) Who would build a commercial crossing with amended facilities at either end in two of the most residential areas in Banff - without putting them to a vote? 2) I believe a very detailed estimates for both locations be constructed and presented before any decision is made to build

For decades, while the pedestrian bridge was being discussed, I always understood that it would cross from just upstream of the Luxton museum to Central Park. I strongly feel that this is still the best and only acceptable location Understood?

We should have some input into this major decision in our community. End of the 2 bridges I think Central Park would get more use for sure.

Sorry but cannot support a sewer bridge in Banff National Park - Media will have a ball with it. Please Please find a way to build the Central Park to Sundance/Rec foot bridge - make all Banfitties proud.

The need for sewer upgrade is not in question - Piggy backing a pedestrian bridge at the location best for sewer isn't necessarily right for pedestrians. I see the continued need for a pedestrian bridge from Central Park to the Rec grounds in the near future.

Combining the 2 project make a very poor choice for the pedestrian bridge. Rec ground xing.

As far as the people working the open house I was invisible except for the first table. Didn't know who to talk to. Is the generator so that things don't freeze through the winter what an awful mess if it were to bust all over the river ice.

I like openness of the bridge. I feel safer in it - can see who is sitting or standing in it. Lots of horse manure main trail.

I am very much in support of this method for updating the sewer pipes. If we get a free bridge out of it, great. We should not dig up the river to accommodate our waste management. We should be more environmentally responsible than that.

I think it is a very beautiful addition to Banff. Go ahead with it.

While my ideal choice would be for a ped bridge extension beside the existing bridge. I believe that the current proposal solves the sewage pipe issue while also providing an emergency vehicle river crossing at those few peak traffic times when one is necessary. I very much object to the original planned location at Central Park which would completely change the current view walk experience and obstruct views toward Norquay. So if this pedestrian bridge construction puts a stake in the heart of the proposed Central Park bridge, I'm for it.

Muskrat Street Option preferred.

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My concern is also for noise and littering by the houses on Buffalo and Muskrat street.

I totally support Muskrat Street for 1)Sewer pipe 2)Ambulance 3)Bridge for pedestrian and children.

Nice bridge. Wood might be more maintenance than forecasted and not as durable as a cable suspension bridge .

Great opportunity to integrate these functions - creates an opportunity to present this concept through a viewpoint from the main Banff Avenue bridge - if lanes expanded the pedestrian access may become more important/desirable option to the existing bridge.

I like the idea and the location. I will use it and enjoy the cleaner air and the views. I live nearby and are not concerned about an increase in drunken behaviors in my neighbourhood or in parking issues (nobody will come to the bridge to park, the odd person may park there but...so what?) Let's encourage WALKING (---- other things, it's not a crime!) Hmmm- How will you control skateboarding the tricks part?

As a frequent user of this path - on both sides of the river - I love the pedestrian bridge option.

I am for construction of Muskrat Street bridge.

I think it is a good thing putting in the bridge. Not only do we get a new sewage line which is important but also we get another way to get into town. Tourist will love it and you won't have to deal with cars.

Build it.

We NEED emergency access over the bridge. So much of our community lives " on the other side" and are at risk. Muskrat Street option is with the flow of foot traffic from Springs Crescent/ Kootenai /Valley view Banff Springs Housing/ Hotel/Middle Springs. Cave Avenue and Rec ground users are going to continue to use an "ice bridge" for 5 + months of the year (at their own risk) in any event. A bridge, with emergency access, to renew sewer pipes and for free - kind of a no brainer. Comments have been made that "obviously" people want a bridge where we see the "ice bridge" as this is where they cross. The ice at Muskrat street is not closed in the winter and does not provide this option.

I am excited to see construction begin on this project!

Looks fantastic, should be a great addition to the visitors. If noise becomes a problem for neighbouring properties, the Town should install some sort of sound barriers/reducers. Good work, makes the most sense.

The location, downstream of the car bridge and off Muskrat street is perfect! 95% of the residents and visitors on the south side of the river are downstream. So the bridge will be well used. This is a way better location than upstream! You have my free support for the Muskrat Street location (even though we live on Buffalo Street. Thanks.

Good idea. This will complement a future bridge at Central Park. The design of the bridge is suited to its context.

Great job at combining two necessary pieces of infrastructure. Any cost savings that lower taxes are appreciated. Supporter of the bridge may not be as vocal but we support it.

A bridge not needed! It poses a major security risk on Buffalo St and Glen!

Leave (or fix) the sewer pipes as they are - can be easily fixed with little environmental impact. Do we need a pedestrian bridge really? If so it is obvious it should go from the park to park - as was unanimously stated when the town had the proposals of foot bridges approx. 4 years ago (signed by residents) We don't need a foot bridge in a neighborhood - this is a ridiculous idea!! Banff has incurred so much debt in the past approx. 6 years - we are already in serious financial trouble. Do we need more - no one would think so. When will the town "come clean" and be transparent to the reality to this scam? It is not Free - come on! We need a plebiscite - it is our right and the town's responsibility!!

1. My understanding is that the option of lining the existing pipe makes more sense. 2. The rescue truck won't be able to cross, we don't need other access for EMS or FIRE. 3. Cost overruns seems to be endemic 6.8 mil seems to be excessive! Its not a free bridge! 4. Do we pump it (the sewage) Then heat it, then scrub the smell, light it, clean it, fish out the shopping carts and bikes, maintain it, and police it for \$45,000 per year? I don't think so! Banff refreshing-cost overrun! Recreation centre-cost overrun! Roam busses and bus barn-cost overrun! Pedestrian bridge-??

Add pedestrian sidewalk to existing bridge, maintain same appearance.

I do not support the expenditure of town of Banff tax revenue in the building of a pedestrian bridge. A pedestrian bridge is a "nice to have" not a "need to have". A fourth lane on the Bow River bridge is a "need to have". Particularly if the pedestrian crosswalk at McDonalds is where the back up during busy period starts. The bow river bridge used to be four lane. It should be reconverted from the present three lane to the former four lane.

Forget about this new bridge and give consideration to the existing bridge. The big problem is vehicle traffic and the existing bridge used to be four lanes and should be put back as four lanes. This could be done by narrowing the two sidewalks as we have never required the extra wide sidewalks at any time. This would give enough space to replace an extra lane and still have lots of room for people to walk. Go back to square one and start by letting the people who are going to pay for this have their say before you state any further planning or spending more tax payers money.

I favour the touchless option- minimal disturbance no change to the landscape. All oil pipelines are buried and they travel for thousands of kms across all kinds of terrain.

Why do we not get to say that we don't agree with the location? What studies were done to show that the bridge should be on this side?

I don't agree with a bridge being built at all. (Visual) Money is the deciding factor on this project. I live at the corner of Muskrat and Buffalo and use the area down by the river with my kids. I don't think visitors will benefit from this bridge. There is often options without major changes to the landscape. PLEASE RECONSIDER!

It says on one of the posters "Signs will be used to locate local attractions" Well yes, signs will be needed, because there is nothing to see when people cross the bridge. It will say Cavin Basin turn right which will just make tourists do a circle wasting time. Replace the pipes using a trenchless crossing, its worked for 100 years before, and quite frankly, it's not as bad as your poster makes it to seem.

We do not need a foot bridge in this town, however, if it is a way to hide a potential eyesore (sewer pipe) so be it.

The plan approved concept needs to be revised. I am hearing the following comments. 1. We do not need a pedestrian bridge. 2. The only location for a pedestrian bridge is central park-Rec grounds. 3. It doesn't matter what I say, this is a done deal and the council won't listen. 4. My opinion: Linking sewage to bridge is confusing. Repair sewage lines and decouple the two issues.

The lack of public consultation on this project is shameful and appalling. All alternatives have not been explored, including sleeving the current pipes. Costs for additional mitigations could be astronomical. Consider pedestrian addition to existing bridge. Delay until the traffic steady is completed. The Muskrat/Buffalo street residential area will be sacrificed if this folly built.

Give us a vote. Leave the pipes under the water so they don't freeze and don't need to be heated. Please listen to us. Pedestrian bridge not necessary to carry ambulance or Fire Truck. Spaced Timbers?! What about people with canes? What about dogs? What about baby carriage wheels? Wood will be slippery.

This bridge in this location is not necessary here additional foot/bike traffic use a lower pedestrian bridge upstream or downstream immediately (i.e. attached) to the current bridge, remove sidewalks form current bridge to create another lane to be used on busy days, or by emergency vehicles. Why not sleeve a pipe inside the current pipe-the technology and ability exists. Why is this not even an option? Run an engineering competition to get the best people and ideas, re: sleeving. Do not increase the number of structures crossing the river - the "footprint" of the town -if you want to attract tourists to see the views.

At the Cave and Basin a sleeve was used, this would be a great option to consider.

Lumping sewer repair with important people moving projects is a poor idea.

People don't want this bridge-you have picked a poor solution for the sewer and for a pedestrian bridge. Connect park to park- this has been said many times- Gravity has moved the sewage across the river for 70 years-why make this so complicated-power-motos-.

Where is the parking? Handicap issues??? Washrooms. Will the town be cleaning sidewalks, walkways, debris, garbage- Winter and Summer? Are motor bikes, skateboards, etc., allowed? The pedestrian bridge is not required-especially in this location.

Why not fix the existing pipes under the water and forget about a bridge!!

I am totally opposed to the Muskrat Street location. There is no need to put this in a residential area-it will either be very much under-utilized or if you eventually close the Banff Ave bridge to pedestrian traffic -then it will have a very negative impact on the residents living nearby. Please reconsider!!

Just go ahead and build it.

I believe the very most important installation would be surveillance cameras. It is the kind of world we live in - unless of course you are an ostrich. It is imperative we have a measure of deterrence especially when there is no patrol 24/7. A question - is the bridge covered? if not who will clear and maintain it? I am very much in favour of the bridge. Maybe someday when the economy is better, another bridge can be built on the west side. I hope that the Town of Banff can make the sidewalks narrower on the Banff Avenue bridge. It is more than imperative that there are 2 lanes of traffic in each direction. Again, I hope the TOB will not waste money on picnic tables. The people who live near the bridge do not need picnicers in the area. What's next? Fire pits? Who would ever think of suggesting that - maybe the same person who suggested last year that we take away a parking lot for a skating rink?

Muskrat Street location totally inappropriate. It is an eyesore! Better to use existing bridge like the pedestrian bridge in Canmore. - Use existing bridge for sewer pipe or bury it under the river bed. - If the proposed bridge is to accommodate EMS vehicle, you might as well build a second full vehicle bridge. - If you ever had to evacuate the south side of town, the existing bridge is totally inadequate. - The proposed bridge location only benefits Glen Avenue and YWCA and not Middle Springs and Valley View as it is further away. People walking along Banff Avenue will not go 2 blocks out of their way to use the pedestrian bridge at Muskrat Street. If you remove the sidewalks on the existing bridge people will merely walk on the road! This create a hazard for everyone. Central Park to the Recreation grounds would make much more sense. - I question the "need " for a pedestrian bridge in the first place! - Best option - Fix sewer pipe with no new bridge. At least just use existing one. It is obvious that the town has already made the decision to put this unwanted bridge on Muskrat Street and it wouldn't matter if all Banffites opposed it. Council just does the complete opposite to public wishes. How arrogant! It just shows how out of touch council is with its citizens.