

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
JOHNSON STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

In April 2009, City of Victoria Council approved the replacement the Johnson Street Bridge due to its overall condition for a cost of \$63 million. The new bridge will provide three traffic lanes, on-road bike lanes, sidewalks and multi-use path, and a passenger rail corridor linking to the city's downtown. To help fund the project, the City applied for the Federal Infrastructure Stimulus Grant Program to secure two-thirds of the cost (\$42 million). One of the criteria of the Program is that the project must be completed by March 2011. In order to meet the tight timeline, the City selected the Design-Build approach over the traditional Design/Bid/Build methodology due to the expedited process. However, the expedited process (Design-Build) presents a challenge with regards to engaging the public to select the new bridge design.

To assist in the selection of the new bridge design, a Citizens Advisory Committee comprised of members of the community with various expertises was created to help select the new bridge design and to participate throughout to the completion of the project.

In keeping with Council's desire; the project goal, guiding principals and role for the Citizens Advisory Committee have been established as follows:

### **1. PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE**

To work with City staff and advise City of Victoria's Council regarding the replacement of the Johnson Street Bridge Project, with a focus as how the proposed replacement demonstrates that it will contribute to the socio-cultural, economic, and environment sustainability of the city and also provide advice throughout the project to its completion.

### **2. GOAL**

To support Council's vision to be the most liveable city in Canada by replacing the Johnson Street Bridge and providing alternative transportation infrastructure that supports not only the City's needs, but that of the entire Region, for both today and future generations.

### **3. OBJECTIVES**

The project will:

- be completed on-time and on-budget
- comply with all City, Provincial, and Federal guidelines, regulatory and legislative requirements
- will provide sustainable alternative transportation options with a primary focus on accessibility, pedestrians, cyclists and supporting transit and passenger rail service into the downtown
- be considerate and respectful of all City guiding documents and plans, in particular the Old Town Guidelines and Harbour Pathway Plan
- will compliment and enhance the urban form and design elements of the surrounding area and integration of those elements
- will enhance safety, aesthetics and accessibility
- minimize impact and disruptions to the immediate area and beyond during construction
- use a Triple-Bottom Line framework considering social, environmental, and economics values in selecting the successful project
- be informed by the public and will benefit from the respectful and informed exchange of ideas from the community
- meet the Community's needs for both today and future generations

#### **4. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Citizens Advisory Committee will be comprised of seven members of the community with various expertise and City Staff, including the City Manager acting as the Chair of the Committee. The Members of the Committee are as follows;

Community Members:

- Community Representative – 2
- Cycling/Pedestrian Representative - 1
- Architect/Urban Designer – 2
- Sustainability Representative – 1
- Heritage Representative – 1

City Staff Members and Chair of the Committee:

- City Manager – Chair
- Assistant City Manager
- Director, Engineering
- Director, Communications

#### **5. TERM OF APPOINTMENT**

The Citizens Advisory Committee will be appointed for the duration of the Project (18 to 24 months). If vacancies should arise during the term, the Chair of the Committee will consult with Council to identify alternates, if required.

#### **6. MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE**

Meetings will be held at the call of the Chair of the Committee. Meeting frequency may vary during the course of the project. It is expected to have more meetings in the beginning of the project leading up to and including the selection of the new bridge. The meetings would then taper to a monthly basis or as required based on achieving key milestones.

In order to be a Member in good standing, regular attendance at the meetings is required. A member who is absent from the meeting for three consecutive meetings, without notification may be deemed resigned from the Committee.

#### **7. COMPENSATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Members of the Citizens Advisory Committee are on a voluntary basis. No compensation will be made to Members of the Citizens Advisory Committee for their participation.

However, Members of the Committee will be recognized and acknowledged for their contribution to the project.

#### **8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

All Committee Members will be asked to confirm and declare any conflict of interest at each meeting given that individual's circumstances may change from time-to-time.

#### **9. COMMUNICATIONS**

In order to maintain the integrity of the process and tight timelines for the project, the Committee will be expected to communicate as a team. All external communication will be managed through the Director of Communications' office regarding the progress of the project, key milestones and major decisions made by the Committee. The Director of Communications may from time-to-time request the Committee and/or individual Members to provide comments and/or interviews with the media.