



Yukon Legislative Assembly

Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6



January 10, 2017

Hon. Sandy Silver
Premier
Government of Yukon
Box 2703
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

Dear Premier Silver,

RE: Takhini River Bridge on the North Klondike Highway

As you and your Cabinet are preparing a capital budget for the 2017/18 fiscal year, I am writing to draw your attention to an issue that is a matter of importance to many of my constituents: safety on and near the Takhini River Bridge on the Mayo Road (North Klondike Highway).

After a serious accident on the bridge, several actions were taken to improve safety at the bridge including the addition of centerline rumble strips and reflectors, painting a centerline on the bridge itself, and adding a radar sign at the top of the hill.

Additionally, the 2016/17 capital budget included funding for design and engineering of a walkway for pedestrians, cyclists, and other users, which we committed to attaching to the bridge. According to the last update I received from the Department of Highways and Public Works, design of the walkway was to be completed before the end of 2016.

In the hope that statements made by you and several of your ministers indicating an interest in working collaboratively with MLAs regardless of party affiliation are sincerely meant, I am requesting that you include funding for adding a walkway on the west side of this bridge to accommodate users including pedestrians, cyclists, horses and riders, and ATVs.

The addition of such a walkway to the Takhini River Bridge is supported by many of my constituents, and is the most common capital budget priority that I have heard from people in my riding.

Your support for this project would be appreciated, and would be a welcome improvement to safety on and near the bridge. People would also appreciate an opportunity to review and comment on the design, so I ask that you share the design with the public and with me as soon as possible.



Additionally, as the radar sign has recently been moved from the top of the hill, I seek your assurance that it will either be reinstalled, or replaced with a radar sign similar to the ones on the highway in several communities including Carmacks and Pelly Crossing.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Brad Cathers
MLA for Lake Laberge

Cc. Hon. Richard Mostyn, Minister of Highways and Public Works