

CONSULTATION SUMMARY

**Kicking Horse Canyon Project
Public Open House
March 4, 2010**

Prepared by:
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Introduction

A public open house was held March 4, 2010 to display design drawings and construction traffic management plans for the upcoming construction of the Golden Hill to West Portal section of the Kicking Horse Canyon Project. Updates were also provided on recent construction of Phase 3, and on planning activities for Phase 4.

The open house was held from 4:30pm to 8:30pm at the British Columbia Visitors Centre, located at 111 Golden Donald Upper Road in Golden.

The project team was represented by:

- Murray Tekano, Senior Project Director, KHCP
- Jon Jensen, Senior Project Manager, KHCP
- Darcy Grykuliak, Lead Engineer, KHCP
- Adriana daCosta, Project Technician, KHCP
- Jack Stuempel, Stakeholder Relations, KHCP
- Alex Izett, Roadway Design Manager, KHCP
- Jim Deutsch, Construction Manager, KHCP
- Penny Dewart, Document Control, KHCP
- Peter McLeod, Property Advisor, KHCP

Contractor representatives included:

- Frank Jacobs, Vice-President, EAC
- Collin Blonarowitz, Construction Manager, EAC
- Laurie Humble, Highway and Interchange Design, EAC
- Doug Lougheed, Environmental Manager, EAC

Publicity and Notification

The public, stakeholder groups, and local media were notified of the consultation opportunity with a webpage announcement, paid print media advertising, media advisory, and more than 215 e-mailed invitations.

A confirming public open house announcement was posted on the project website (www.kickinghorsecanyon.ca) on March 2.

Paid advertisements were placed in the Golden Star for February 24 and March 3. Media advisories were issued to local media by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure Public Affairs Branch.

Invitations were sent by e-mail on February 24, 2010 to local stakeholders, including the community liaison committee, government, tourism, environmental

groups, industry, residents adjacent to the project and property owners affected by the proposed detour route.

Attendance and Feedback

A total of 103 attendees signed in, including representatives from the RCMP, CP Rail, Parks Canada, liaison committee, Mayor of Golden and other Town officials.

Open House Results Summary		
Registered Attendees	Feedback Forms	Feedback %
103	13	13%

Only 13 comment forms were returned during the open house, which is a low rate of response (compared to a usual expected return rate of 25%). However, low formal response rates typically reflect a high level of acceptance and general support, which is consistent with the general tone of the dialogue at the open house.

Comment Forms: Project Feedback at a Glance – Subjects of Interest		
Subject/Opinion	Number of Comments*	% of Total Respondents
General positive feedback (presentation, staff, design, project overall)	4	31%
Detour concern 1 – noise/request barrier 1 – business impact 1 – road quality	3	23%
Encourage local hiring	2	15%
Design - Trail connectivity	2	15%
Design - Improve wildlife crossings	1	1%
Construction - Cyclist safety concern during construction	1	1%
Construction - Dust control concern	1	1%
Construction - Improve roadway markings	1	1%
LaFontaine stabilization	1	1%
Phase 4 now	1	1%
*Note: Several forms contained multiple comments		

Additional (Oral) Comments – reported by project team members
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A desire to see advancement of a cycling/pedestrian trail connection all the way to the Highway 95 intersection• Request for wider shoulders on the interchange loops to accommodate bicycles• Concern about cyclist safety on Lafontaine Road
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concern over traffic noise on Golden View Road, both during the planned construction detour and the widened highway
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A wish for additional signage to enhance visibility of neighbouring businesses during construction
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A request for continued consultation with Tourism BC in relation to the Visitor Centre
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concern over line visibility in the Phase 3 East construction zone
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions regarding the design and construction of the future Phase 4 segment, as well as relative merits of various design elements, including bridges and tunnels

Evaluation/Measurement

Attendance

Attendance was good, with early arrivals beginning at 4pm and steady traffic for most of the session.

The attendance level and representation from key stakeholder groups suggest there was an adequate amount of publicity and notification regarding the open house.

Feedback

The majority of the feedback received at the open house was generally positive, and there appear to be no significant issues with respect to access to information or dialogue to address concerns.

Media

Reporter James Knoop from the Golden Star attended and an article was published on-line on March 9th in the top story position. The 390-word article touched on safer access at Golden Upper Donald Road, the roundabout, new lookout, bike and pedestrian trails, special provisions to prevent wildlife-vehicle collisions, and the nature of the design-build. The article stated that the highway will be detoured beginning in July, with new signage and continued access to businesses. Murray Tekano was quoted regarding local labour and the detour. The article was concise and accurate.

Sustaining Activities/Follow-up

- **Completed** – post open house panels to project website
- **Completed** – collation/analysis of comment forms and staff de-briefings following the open house
- **Completed** – reply by March 12, 2010 to comment form requesting an immediate response regarding noise concerns for the detour route. Initial phone call made, with follow-up arrangements made, including plan to install fencing to improve separation between the trailer park and the detour route
- Correspondence from local business requesting signage – schematic being prepared by contractor
- Discuss/provide open house summary to liaison committee at next meeting
- Post final detailed design and implementation plans to website
- **Ongoing** – post construction announcements, traffic advisories on website; direct notifications to key stakeholders