

Funding ensures 28th overpass to be built on time

Feds and province each contribute over \$2 million to highway project

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A new overpass at Highway 17 and 28th Avenue will be fast tracked after a funding announcement earlier this week.

On Monday, the federal and provincial governments announced funding for the overpass, which will be restricted to farm vehicle traffic, pedestrians and cyclists.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Premier Gordon Campbell announced funding for 15 projects, including the 28th Avenue overpass, under the federal infrastructure stimulus fund and the provincial capital infrastructure program.

Both levels of government will contribute \$2,387,500 to the project while the rest of the almost \$10-million price tag will be picked up by the rail corridor program.

Delta CAO George Harvie said while construction of the overpass has been in the plans for some time, this week's funding announcement means the project has been accelerated to ensure it is completed in line with South Fraser Perimeter Road construction.

Part of the Gateway Program's much larger Roberts Bank Rail Corridor program, the overpass is one of four to be built in South Delta. The other overpasses are at 41B Street at Deltaport Way, 36th Avenue at South Fraser Perimeter Road and 64th Street at SFPR, as well as the closure of the 57B Street at-grade rail crossing and the removal of a farm overpass at 46A Street.

Some residents in the area are opposed to the 28th Avenue overpass, saying it will destroy farmland and isn't even necessary.

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