



February 27, 2024

Brad Cathers
MLA, Lake Laberge
Yukon Legislative Assembly
Box 2703
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

Re: Takhini River Bridge on the Mayo Road – Project Scope

Dear Mr. Cathers,

Thank you for your February 6 letter regarding the project scope of the Takhini River Bridge. Our government is committed to ensuring the safety of road users, which is why I was excited to announce the \$8.5 million investment in the Takhini River Bridge.

The improvements announced in January will not only add an active transportation route to the bridge, they will also include structural upgrades to increase the bridge's safety for everyone, whether they drive, walk, bike, ski or kicksled across the bridge. The department is currently reviewing options and estimated costs for the upgrades. Some of the options under consideration include:

- widening the bridge;
- adding a sidewalk to the bridge;
- improving the sightlines for southbound traffic on the north side of the bridge;
- excavating the embankment to the west to also improve sightlines; and
- painting shoulder lanes on the approaches to the bridge.

These improvements will benefit the bridge users both inside city limits and on the hill above the Takhini River Bridge. In the meantime, the department has implemented measures to help increase road safety on the bridge. Staff have installed a speed display sign on the north approach to the bridge to help reduce speed as well as a "share the road" sign. This intent of the signs are to encourage drivers to be mindful of other users of the bridge, such as cyclists. Once our engineers have fully assessed the options, they will share the final design with the public at an information session. More details on this information session will be announced in the coming months.

Thank you again for bringing forward your concerns.

Sincerely,

Nils Clarke
Minister of Highways and Public Works