

Fermor Avenue Bridge over Seine River Rehabilitation and Roadworks

Public Engagement Summary

April 2018

Background

Fermor Avenue between St. Anne's Road and Archibald Street along the bridge over the Seine River was originally constructed in 1953. The existing concrete pavement on this section of Fermor Avenue has generally reached the end of its life and needs to be rehabilitated. The proposed works are required to extend the service life of the bridge and accommodate improvements. A comprehensive reconstruction/rehabilitation of Fermor Avenue allows for improvements including reducing access points around the Fermor Avenue and St. Anne's Road intersection, less abrupt curves, longer exit/acceleration lanes to Alpine Avenue and Seagrim Road, new/improved pedestrian and cyclist paths, a pedestrian and cyclist underpass linking Niakwa Trail and Niakwa Road, and crossing safety improvements.

Engagement

The consultation program for preliminary design consisted of two rounds of stakeholder and public engagement, the first which was carried out between August and October 2016, and the second which occurred over November and December 2016. The input received in the preliminary design process was used in decision making during detailed design. As the project progressed there were fewer opportunities for input, but a desire to continue refining the design with stakeholders. The City determined that the engagement program for detailed design would consist of one public information session and an on-line survey.

Promotion

Public engagement opportunities were promoted using the following methods:

- City of Winnipeg website, social media feeds, and public engagement e-newsletter with over 5,300 recipients;
- · Newspaper ads and news releases;
- Admail drop of approximately 6000 households and businesses for both the open houses and public information session; and,
- Notification posters posted in more than 10 locations.

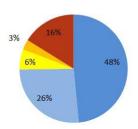
Key Findings or What We Heard

- The project in general was well received;
- The pedestrian and cycling components of the project were well received, and transit improvements were viewed positively;
- The bridge rehabilitation and intersection improvements made sense and were well received;
- Access changes on Alpine are a positive change

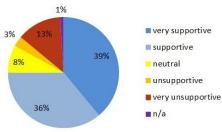
and look safer, and will likely improve traffic flow;

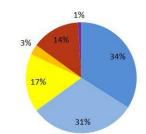
 Many were doubtful about whether future phase work will happen.

Pedestrian and cycling network and tunnel

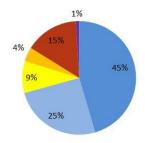


Improvements at Fermor Avenue and St Anne's Road Alpine Avenue and Fermor Avenue access changes





Bridge Rehabilitation



To learn more about the Fermor Ave Bridge over Seine River Rehabilitation and Roadworks, please visit winnipeg.ca/fermor



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Date	Activity	Details
Summer & Fall 2016	14 Stakeholder Meetings	Meetings were held in various locations. Attendees included local residents, businesses and organizations, and representatives from school divisions and various City departments.
December 13, 2016	Open House	The Open House for preliminary design was held at Southdale Community Centre, and was attended by more than 170 people.
January 10, 2018	Public Information Session	The Public Information Session for detailed design was held at Archwood Community Centre, and was attended by more than 60 people. An on-line survey was available for comment during the month of January, 2018.

What We Heard	How It Was Considered
Access from Fermor Avenue onto Alpine Avenue is dangerous.	Closed unsafe access point, consolidated egress and exist into one location.
Unsafe pedestrian and cyclist crossing on Fermor Avenue between Safeway and Superstore.	Pedestrian and cyclist underpass with good sightlines, enhance pedestrian and cyclist crossing at intersection.
Road and bridgedeck in poor condition.	Rehabilitated bridgedeck.
Niakwa Trail is heavily used by residents, issues with flooding and slope stability, river bottom forest is important to residents.	Retaining wall to mitigate slope stability, maintain existing path and bridge, new pedestrian and cycling path up to and across the Fermor Bridge.
Fermor Avenue should be three lanes in each direction.	Examined during Preliminary Design. It was determined that widening to three lanes in each direction was not required, and not identified in the City of Winnipeg Transportation Master Plan.
Concerns about noise and traffic during construction.	Major construction activities to occur during daylight hours to minimize noise impacts. One lane of traffic in each direction to be maintained throughout bridge reconstruction.
Concerns about potential environmental impacts on the Seine River corridor.	The design of the bridge rehabilitation was done in a manner to avoid impacts on the river channel or on access for wildlife. Project design also included a variety of design components to minimize impacts on river bottom forest and riverbank stability. Netting will be installed to avoid impacts on bird nesting.
Concerns were addressed about safety in the pedestrian and bicycle underpass.	Design of underpass incorporated a variety of safety related features, including gentle straight slopes, long and clear sight lines, increased width and height of the underpass structure, and lighting.

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Next Steps

Construction on the Fermor Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation and Roadworks will begin in spring 2018. Construction on the south side of the pedestrian and cyclist underpass and the north side of the bridge will occur in spring 2018, and construction on the north pedestrian and cyclist underpass and south side of the bridge will occur in spring 2019. Construction completion is anticipated in fall 2019.