

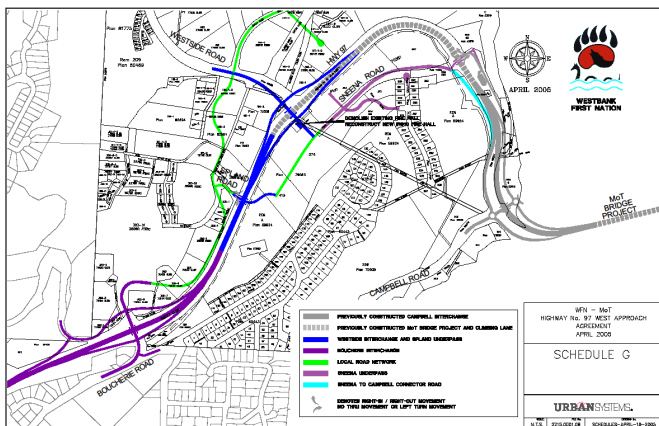
Boucherie Road Interchange Project

Submitted by WFN Intergovernmental Affairs 7/19/2017

Background

The Boucherie Road Interchange Project is the last of four projects which form the April 18, 2005 agreement, approved by the WFN Membership on July 28 2005, between Westbank First Nation and the Province of British Columbia (the "Agreement")

The Agreement provides the framework for negotiations between the two governments for the provision of highway improvements and access at four locations on WFN reserve lands: Campbell Road, Westside Road, Sneena Road/Spland and Boucherie Road (see attached drawing *West Approach to Okanagan Lake Bridge Phases* drawing from the Agreement, attached).



Schedule G from the April 18 2005 Agreement. The Boucherie Road Interchange is the last highway improvement project to be completed under this Agreement.

In 2014, following the successful completion of the Sneena Road Overpass, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure ("MoTI") began planning for improvements at Boucherie Road and met extensively with technical representatives from both the Westbank First Nation and the City of West Kelowna to determine each communities infrastructure and access needs.

Open houses were held by MoTI in each community in March of 2016 to provide information to the public and to WFN Members and to get feedback into the design and process. Information was provided about the rationale for the interchange, the process for determining the design, and the level of involvement of both Westbank First Nation and the City of West Kelowna in the project. The display boards used in the process and the report from the public information sessions can be found here: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/transportation-infrastructure/projects/okanagan-valley-corridor/okanagan-valley-current/boucherie-westlake>

Current Status

MoTI has committed funding to develop the preliminary design of the Boucherie Road interchange and in the process of selecting an engineering firm for this purpose.

The preliminary design will take about a year to develop. During this phase, the amount of reserve land required for the interchange as well as any land that may be required during the construction phase will be identified.

Design Concept

The concept for Boucherie Road involves removing the lights and intersection at Boucherie Road at Highway 97 and replacing that with a grade separated interchange. Horizon Road and Boucherie traffic would flow beneath the highway to roundabouts and off ramps on either side. The concept design (see insert photo) is subject to revision as the preliminary design process proceeds.

Membership Involvement

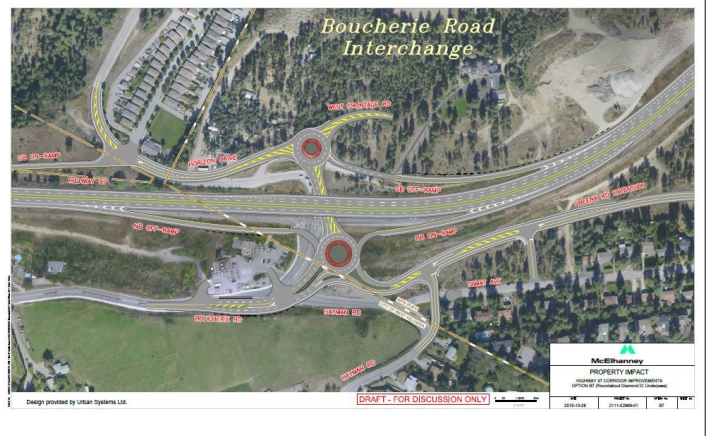
As reserve lands are required for the current Boucherie Interchange design, there are requirements for Membership approvals under our Constitution. A final agreement with the Province to proceed with Boucherie Road will be dependent on that Membership approval being provided.

Next Steps

Westbank First Nation continues to be involved in discussions with MoTI about the Boucherie project. In addition to having input into the overall design of the interchange, WFN is having early discussions with MoTI about WFN's ongoing involvement and role in the project and about other benefits for our community such as the provision of employment and contracting opportunities. Negotiations, however, are unlikely to substantially advance until the amount of WFN land required for the interchange is known next year.

A detailed update, including a backgrounder of the Boucherie Project will be provided to the Membership at the next General Band Meeting in September.

For more information about the project, please contact either Raf DeGuevara at (250) 769-4999 or rdguevara@wfn.ca or Evelyn Lube at (250) 864-7395 or elube@shaw.ca



Latest concept design of the Boucherie Road Interchange. The ultimate design of the interchange, including the WFN land requirements will not be known until the Preliminary Design is completed by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure in 2018.

