



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee

To General Purposes Feb 19, 2007

Date: January 25, 2007

From: Greg Scott, P.Eng.
Director, Major Projects

File: 10-6340-20-P.05208/Vol
01

Re: River Road Relocation - Bridge crossing Hollybridge Way Canal

Staff Recommendation

That the design concept by internationally recognized public artist, Buster Simpson, for the Skate Blades on the bridge crossing Hollybridge Way Canal be approved.

Greg Scott, P.Eng.
Director, Major Projects
(4372)

Att. 2

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Culture and Heritage.....	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED BY CAO YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

The first phase of the River Road Relocation project was initiated as a 2005/6 Capital Project to build the first portion of the new road along the CP Rail alignment. The project includes a bridge located at the gateway to the Oval from City Centre. The concept of changing the bridge from a simple engineering structure to a literal threshold to the Oval Grounds was presented in the Oval Precinct and Surrounding Area Public Art Plan. Approval by Council of the public art aspect of the design concept is a requirement of the Public Art Policy.

Analysis

During the tendering of the road construction package, the City identified cost savings measures that resulted in the estimated costs of the project being reduced significantly. In addition, the bridge design had been simplified to the most cost effective engineering solution in response to concerns over rising costs in the construction market. The contract awarded for the bridge was below the budget for that item.

Staff evaluated the options for improving the bridge. With the concepts and goals of the Oval Art Plan in hand to create Memorable First Impressions and Lasting Legacy staff are making every effort to improve the bridge within a short time frame. The project team was quickly expanded to include landscape architects and a request for expressions of interest from artists was initiated. The team mirrored the artist selection process of the City's public art policy, and internationally recognized artist Buster Simpson was hired to be a consultant to the design team.

The attached concept drawings are the result of an ongoing design development which recognizes the pedestrian environment and creates the feel of crossing a threshold for pedestrians and vehicles. The pedestrian skate blades lighting aspect of the concept was developed by public artist Buster Simpson and is the portion of the bridge design for which approval is being sought. The following comments from Buster Simpson are a description of the design concept.

"The Richmond Hollybridge Canal Bridge creates a kinesthetic threshold crossing experience and serves as a processional civic entry to the Richmond Oval. This bridge traverses a drainage canal, linking Richmond's "then" with it's "now" through the use of historical references juxtaposed with contemporary reflective and diffractive blade pylons.

The pylons take on the stance of a series of speed skating blades positioned at the starting line, with choreographed blade mark references scored into the concrete walkway below. The glass blades mirrors the adjacent landscape as well as reflect and diffract the ambient light sources as the viewer passes the shifting blades alignments. The sun's daily passage creates a dynamically changing incidence of light. At night, through the use of efficient LED lighting, the pylon blades transform into an illuminated vector, a beacon to what is beyond."

Staff have presented the pedestrian light art concept to the Richmond Public Art Commission and have received a favourable response with the understanding that time was a limiting factor in the procurement of the idea. A letter of support for the project from the Richmond Public Art Commission is attached.

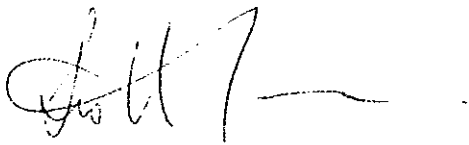
Financial Impact

The estimated cost of the pedestrian skate blades lighting portion of the project is \$230,000.00. As a result of cost savings realized during bridge construction, these additional cost can be accommodated within the Council approved budget of the road construction contract.

The construction work to supply and install the pedestrian skate blades lighting along with other aspects of the design (skate marks in the concrete, images in pedestrian railing topping, and benches) are not necessary for the completion of the bridge and opening of the road. These items will be procured by public tender.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that the pedestrian skate blades lighting aspect of the attached concept plan be approved.



Scott Groves, P.Eng.
Engineer, Major Projects
(4179)

SG:sg

Attachments under separate cover



City of Richmond

6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1
Telephone (604) 276-4000
www.city.richmond.bc.ca

January 24, 2007
File: 11-7000-09-01 2007-Vol 01

Richmond Public Art Commission
Telephone (604) 247-4920
Fax (604) 276-4132

Attention: Scott Groves, P. Eng. (Engineer, Major Projects - City of Richmond)

Dear: Scott

Re: Bridge at Hollybridge Canal

The Richmond Public Art Commission is in favour of including an artist as part of the design team for major civic or private projects in Richmond. As the major vehicular and pedestrian entry into the Oval area from the east, the Bridge over Hollybridge Canal represents an excellent opportunity to celebrate arrival at the site and the uniqueness of the surrounding community through urban design of the highest quality.

The inclusion of an artist of international calibre--Buster Simpson--on the design team is an exemplary and commendable approach to the design of civic infrastructure.

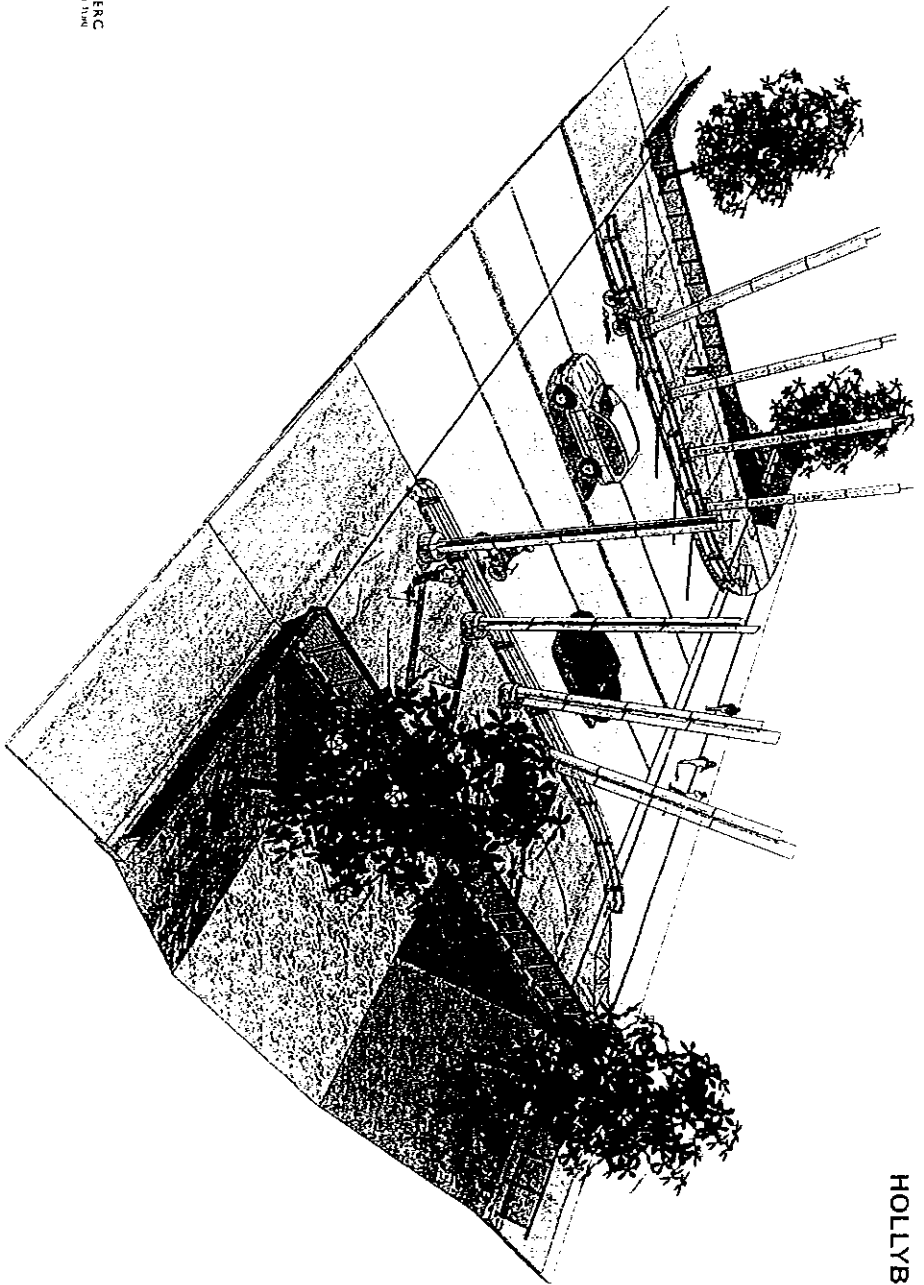
The bridge design is not part of the Richmond Oval Art Plan. As such it is not included in the \$1.75m allotted to the first phase of the plan. The public art at the Oval comes under the mandate of the RPAC and follows the policies and procedures of the Public Art Program of Richmond.

Yours truly,

Willa Walsh
Chair, Richmond Public Art Commission

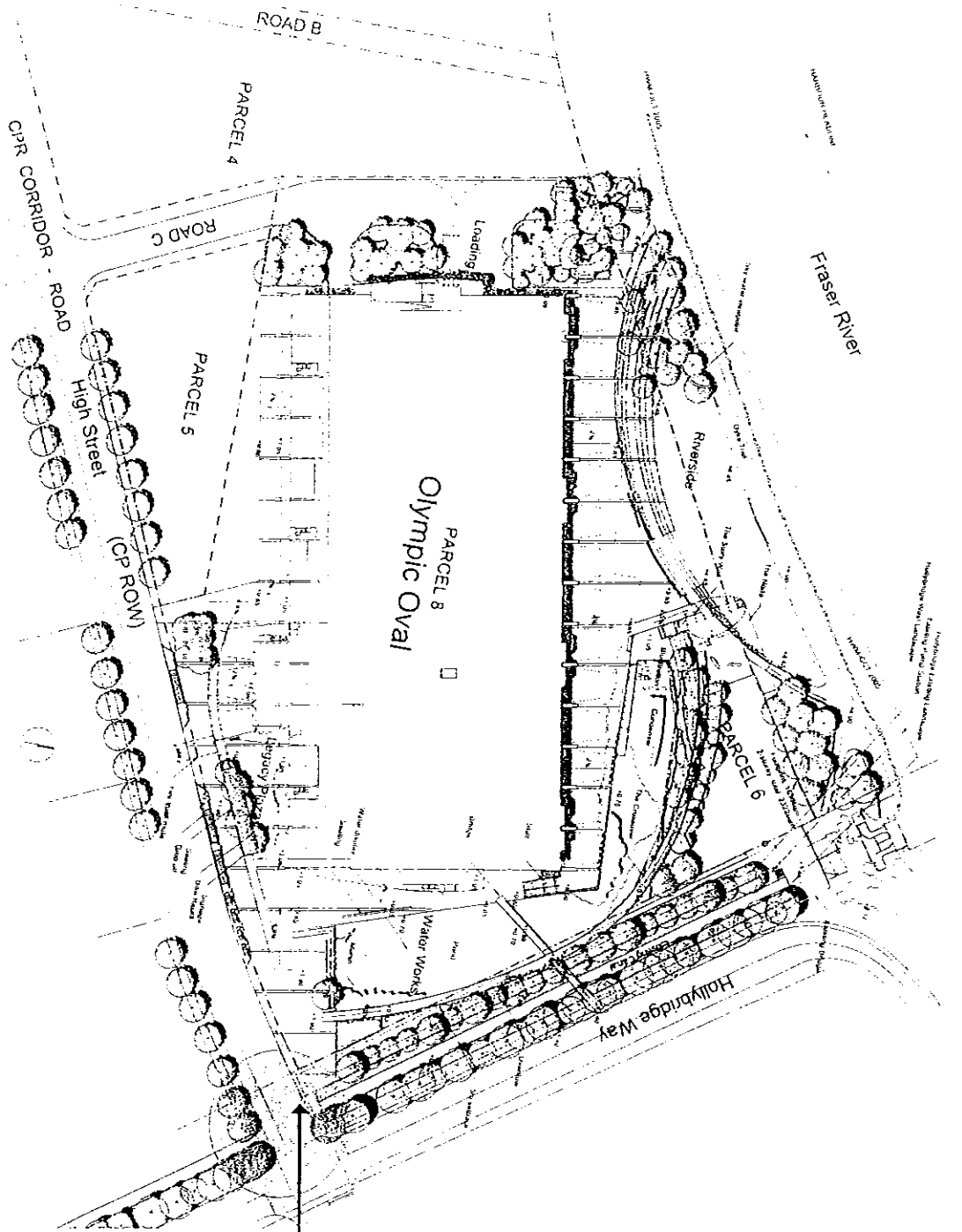
.dz

RICHMOND
HOLLYBRIDGE CANAL BRIDGE



PHILLIPS FARVAAG SPALLEBERG
CONCRETE CONTRACTORS

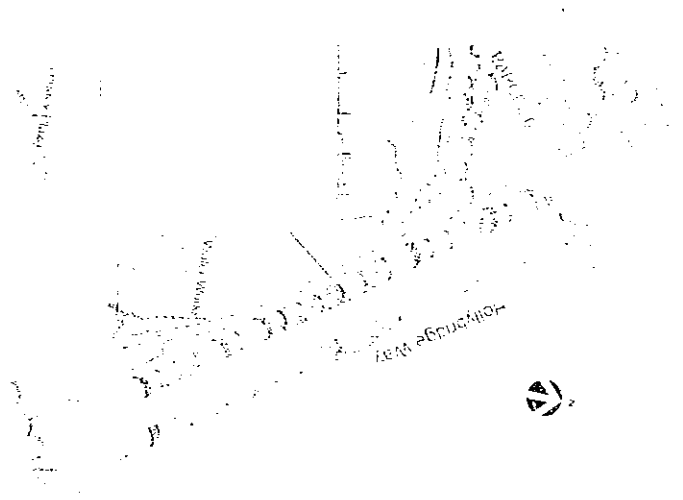
ADDRESS:
10125N 106TH AVE, RICHMOND, WA 98173
PHONE:
206 835 3333
WWW:
WWW.PHILLIPS-FARVAAG-SPALLEBERG.COM



CONTEXT

HOLLYBRIDGE CANAL BRIDGE

- **HIGH STREET Vehicle & Pedestrian Bridge**
- Create a kinesthetic bridge crossing experience and serves as a processional civic entry to the Richmond Oval.
- Bridge a drainage canal linking Richmond's "then" with its "now" through the use of historical references juxtaposed with contemporary reflective and diffraction blade pylons.



- Principle No. 1 - Holly "Bridges"**
- Holly Bridges create a series of unique artist/designer bridges which cross the canal
 - Every bridge must be special, unique, memorable, photo moment

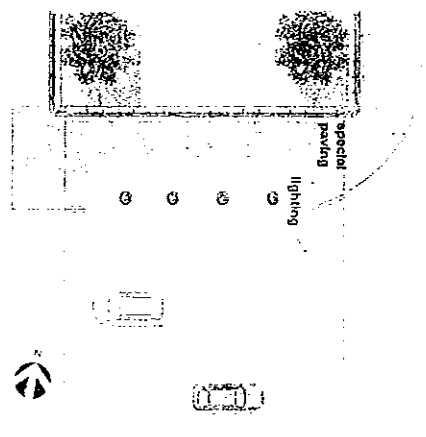
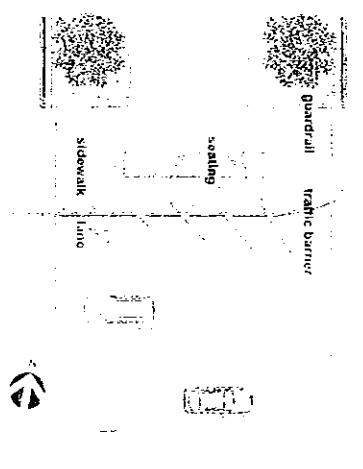
- Principle No. 2 - Linear Landscape**
- Preserve & enhance the linear landscape of canal & trees
 - Emphasize bridge as an intervention thru the canal

Principle No. 3 - Railings

- Locate vehicle crash railing/ barrier to road edge- not at water's edge
- Design a "transparent" and interesting railing for pedestrians at water edge

Principle No. 4 - Seatings

- Locate seating along pedestrian zone to view canal



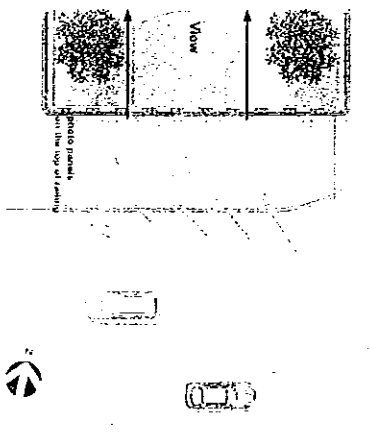
- Principle No. 5 - Lighting**
- Provide both vehicular & pedestrian lighting
 - Pedestrian lighting should be lower scale, warmer light and 'designer'

Principle No. 6 - Paving

- The floor of pedestrian zone should be special paving
- Opportunity to either connect pattern to Oval Legacy Plaza or unique or combo

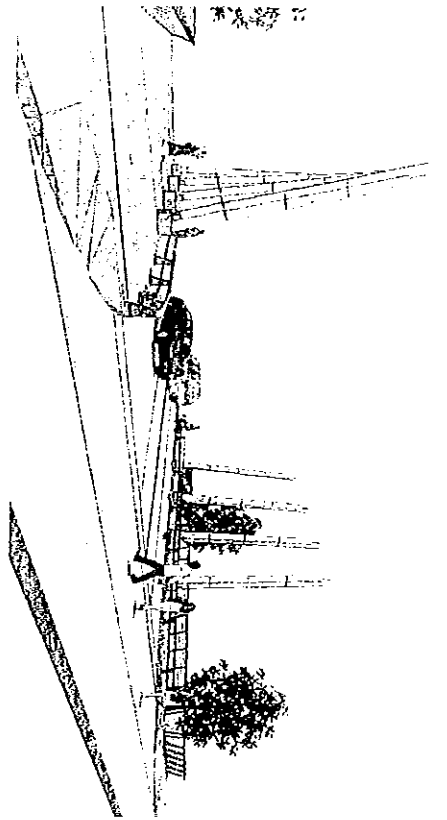
Principle No. 7 - Look-out/ Story

- Provide a moment to look down the canal
- To draw the viewer to this great landscape
- To observe landscape & habitat & wildlife etc.
- The story of canal system & dyke & pumps etc. ecology

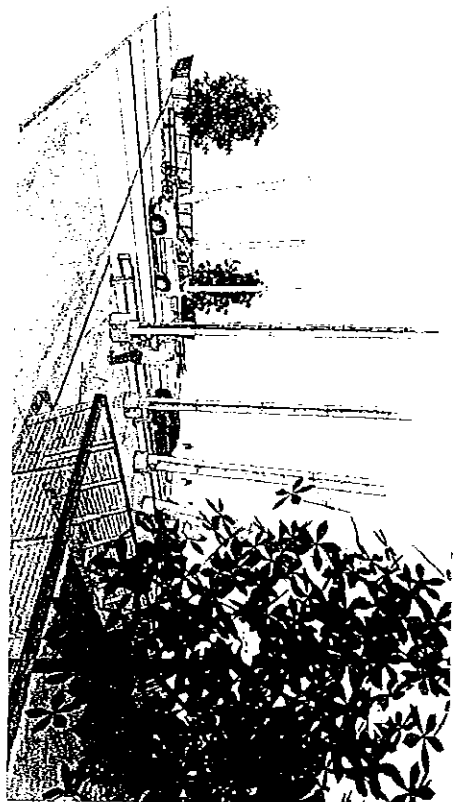


PRINCIPLES

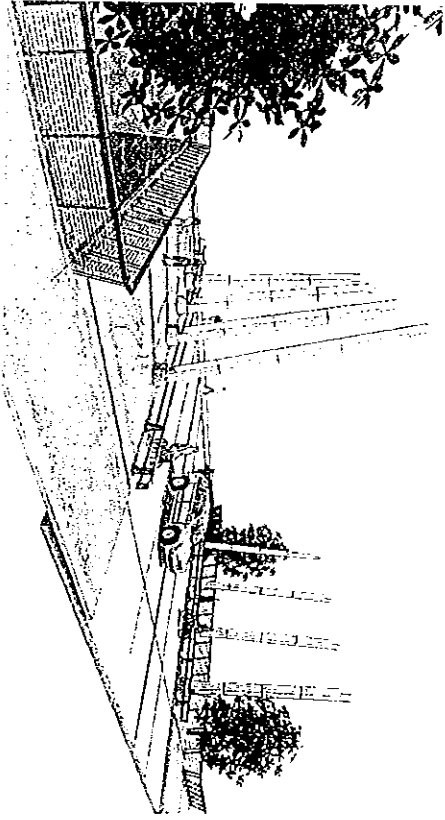
HOLLYBRIDGE CANAL BRIDGE



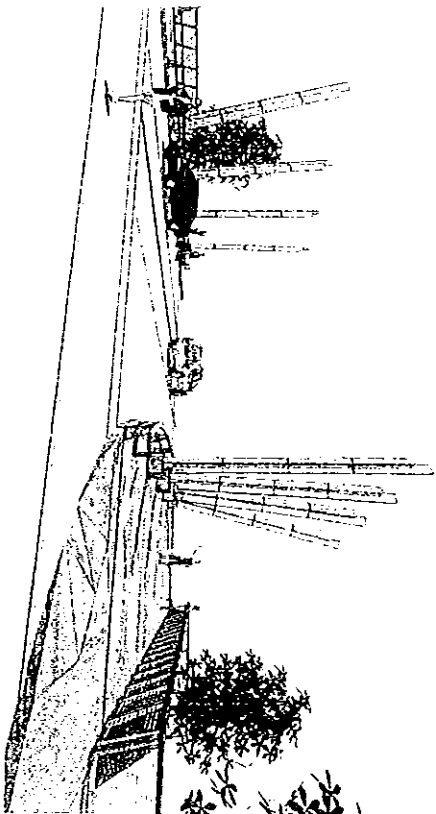
View from southeast corner



View from southwest corner



View from northwest corner



View from northeast corner

PERSPECTIVES

HOLLYBRIDGE CANAL BRIDGE