



# REGIONAL DISTRICT NORTH OKANAGAN

MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES:

CITY OF ARMSTRONG

CITY OF ENDERBY

DISTRICT OF COLDSTREAM

VILLAGE OF LUMBY

CITY OF VERNON

TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN

ELECTORAL AREAS:

"B" – SWAN LAKE

"C" – BX DISTRICT

"D" – LUMBY (RURAL)

"E" – CHERRYVILLE

"F" – ENDERBY (RURAL)

OFFICE OF: CORPORATE SERVICES

OUR FILE No.: 0410.20.09

November 29, 2024

Erik Lachmuth  
District Manager, Transportation  
Okanagan Shuswap District - Ministry of Transportation  
300 – 1358 St Paul St  
Kelowna BC, V2Y 2E1

Dear Mr. Lachmuth:

**Re: Safety Concerns Baird Hill (Intersection of Hwy 97 and Hwy 97B)**

As the Director for Electoral Area 'F' of the Regional District of North Okanagan representing Rural Enderby, I have received several concerns regarding the safety of the Hwy 97 and Hwy 97B intersection particularly considering the recent changes implemented because of the Bruhn Bridge construction. As the Bruhn Bridge project is anticipated to proceed for some time and the significance of the risks associated with the current infrastructure, I urge the Province to consider improvements to this intersection including:

1. Lengthen the merge lane for traffic turning southbound on Hwy 97 – there appears to be sufficient space to accommodate a longer acceleration lane;
2. Lengthen the turning lane for traffic turning northbound on Hwy 97B – again there appears to be adequate room for a longer turning lane to accommodate more vehicles and;
3. Improve the signage and markings / delineations for the new left hand turn lane on Hwy 97B onto Hwy 97. The creation of this lane in conjunction with the elimination of the previous passing lane for northbound traffic on Hwy 97B has the potential to create significant confusion without adequate signage.

The RDNO supports improvements in infrastructure such as the Bruhn Bridge project but want to ensure that they are appropriately supported with measure to ensure the continued safety of residents and visitors to the North Okanagan.

Yours truly,

Allysa Hopkins  
Director, Electoral Area 'F' Regional District of North Okanagan  
/dbs

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