



The Golden Ears Bridge

Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority

News Release

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TransLink finalizes Golden Ears Bridge agreement with Golden Crossing Group

TransLink (the Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority) today announced a finalized agreement with Golden Crossing Group to design, build, finance, operate, maintain and rehabilitate the Golden Ears Bridge and associated road network, paving the way for a spring construction start.

“The new bridge will connect Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows with Surrey and Langley and will dramatically improve the movement of people and goods through the region,” said TransLink Board Chair Malcolm Brodie. “We’re excited to see the project take this important step toward completion.”

The Golden Ears Bridge Project is approximately 14 kilometres in length and includes a six-lane toll bridge across the Fraser River, new arterial roads connecting the bridge to the existing road network on both sides of the Fraser River, and municipal road upgrades to improve traffic flow.

“Golden Crossing Group brings substantial local and international expertise to the project,” said Golden Ears Bridge project director Fred Cummings. “We look forward to working closely with them to deliver a bridge that benefits local communities and the entire region.”

Golden Crossing Group is led by Bilfinger Berger BOT Inc., a wholly-owned Canadian subsidiary of Bilfinger Berger AG, one of the world’s largest transportation contractors. Responsibility for construction costs, on-time delivery and operating performance will be assumed by Golden Crossing Group. The bridge and associated road network will remain the property of TransLink.

“We are looking forward to building a bridge that reflects the unique character of the community,” said Bilfinger Berger BOT Inc. president, John McArthur. “Our team is working towards a spring construction start so we can have the bridge operational by 2009.”

The contracted construction costs for the bridge and associated road network are \$808 million, reflecting additional infrastructure, labour and materials costs. Costs will be recovered through toll revenue and the current Albion Ferry subsidy. The toll rate has been set by TransLink.

Scheduled to open in 2009, the Golden Ears Bridge will reduce travel time across the river by 20-30 minutes. It will benefit the entire region by opening up access to employment, markets, services, facilities and recreational opportunities.

(more)

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TransLink is the region's transportation authority, committed to working with communities and all levels of government to build an integrated transportation network that will improve the movement of goods and people through the Greater Vancouver region. TransLink supports the regional growth strategy, air quality objectives and economic development of the Greater Vancouver Regional District.

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Attached: Golden Ears Bridge image

For a complete list of Golden Crossing Group team members please see:
www.translink.bc.ca/goldenearsbridge/req_qual.asp