WELCOME

Thank you for attending this community engagement regarding the Highway 1 – Balmoral intersection safety improvements.

You can provide us your feedback by:

- Completing our feedback form and leaving it with a member of our team.

- Filling out our feedback form online at: www.gov.bc.ca/highway1-balmoralintersection

- E-mailing your comments to the Project Manager at: Ryan.Thorpe@gov.bc.ca

- Mailing your feedback form to: Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
  Attn: Ryan Thorpe
  #300–1358 St. Paul Street
  Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 2E1

Feedback will be included in design option selection.
Improving Safety is a Priority

The ministry is planning improvements to the intersection of Highway 1 and Balmoral Road, located 10 kilometres east of Sorrento, to address ongoing safety concerns.

From 2008 to 2018, there were 32 collisions at the intersection. T-bone collisions accounted for 70 per cent of the crashes that caused injury or fatality.
Current Conditions

The four-lane undivided highway carries approximately 10,000 vehicles per day (Average Annual Daily Traffic) – 14,000 vehicles per day in the summer – through this intersection, with a posted speed limit of 100 km/hour. The intersection currently has full turning movement on and off the highway.

Balmoral Road carries a summer peak of approximately 2,800 vehicles per day and provides access to the community of Blind Bay. The road carries a mix of residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational and tourism traffic.
Intersection Improvement Objectives

- Increase safety by restricting left turns onto the highway and movements straight across the highway.
- Provide reliable access to local businesses and residences without compromising safety.
- Make the intersection access consistent with the nearby Highway 1 intersections at Cedar Drive, White Creek Frontage Road and White Lake Road, which have right turn-in, right turn-out highway access.
Improvement Options

The ministry has developed two intersection improvement designs for consideration. During planning, the ministry engaged with the Shuswap Chamber of Commerce.

**Option 1** – the ministry’s preferred option, would have right-turn-in, right-turn-out and left-turn-in movements with a protected left-turn bay.

To maximize safety, traffic on Balmoral Road wanting to cross the highway, or make a left turn onto the highway, would use the current underpass that is nearby (a less than three-minute detour).
Improvement Options

Option 2 – would eliminate all left turns onto and off the highway. Traffic on Balmoral Road, wanting to cross the highway, would use the current underpass that is nearby (a less than three-minute detour).
Alternate Access

For both options, all restricted movements onto and across Highway 1 would be accommodated by the current nearby underpass. Using the underpass would take less than three minutes of extra travel time.

This alternative access will be well signed to ensure tourists and non-residents will be able to easily use it.

Alternate access is currently available to all vehicle types.
Why not put in a traffic light?

The goal of the Balmoral Road intersection improvement is to increase safety for all users of the intersection.

- A traffic light would not be safe; it would increase rear-end crashes.
- Waiting on Balmoral Road for the traffic light to change to green would be no faster than using the nearby underpass to cross the highway, nor would it be as safe.
- A traffic light would not be consistent with corridor and driver expectations.
- Efficiency would be reduced.
- Speed zone transitions would be required.
The ministry is planning installations of Concrete Median Barrier (CMB) along Highway 1 as part of the safety improvements.

Sections of Highway 1 adjacent to Balmoral intersection may have CMB installed in conjunction with this project.

Sections include:
- **Balmoral Road to Carlin**: confirmed installation Fall 2019.
- **Balmoral Road to Greer Road**: potential installation Fall 2019 – not confirmed.
- **Greer Road to Cedar Drive**: potential installation Fall 2019 – not confirmed.
Construction

Schedule
Regardless of which option is chosen, construction is anticipated to start and finish this fall.

Impact to Travellers
There will be 8–12 weeks of construction activity. There will be times where traffic is reduced to a single lane in each direction. Delays up to 20 minutes are possible.
Next Steps

- Review open house feedback
- Decide which option to construct
- Finalize the design
- Construct the improvements this fall
Thank you for coming

We want to hear from you. Please provide us your feedback by one of the following methods:

- Complete our feedback form and leave it with a member of our team.
- Fill out our feedback form online at www.gov.bc.ca/highway1-balmoralintersection with online feedback form.
- E-mail your comments to the Project Manager at: Ryan.Thorpe@gov.bc.ca.
- Mail your feedback form to:

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  Attn: Ryan Thorpe
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