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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Western Common Wilderness Common Advisory Committee  
**FROM:** Alex Quinn – Parks and Recreation  
**DATE:** November 15, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Western Common Advisory Committee – Update on Nichols Lake Trail

HRM Parks and Recreation, Parks Capital Projects are continuing with the design and construction of the Nichols Lake Trail.

### Trail Construction

As of November 10, 2023:

#### 9.1.3 Update on Nichols Lake Trail

- Approximately 1000 meters of trail has been completed as per 17-010. This would include clearing, grubbing and gravels. As per the tender section “A” this work excluded the top two layers of gravel and bark mulch. The 1000 meters of trail represents the section from the end of phase 1A (2016) and extends to the river.
- Approximately 540m of the 640m section of trail that branches off to the West has been cleared, grubbed and sections where gravel work is completed.
- WSP Consulting were awarded the bridge crossing design work and began field work on August 15, 2019. This award was based on an RFP process where 3 consultants were invited to submit proposals.
- Cobequid Trail Consulting were retained in September 2019 to investigate the proposed trail alignment between Prospect Road Community Centre and the Old Coach Road (South of Big Indian Lake).
- WSP have completed a draft report to evaluate the potential trail crossing at the waterfall and compare this option to the trail crossing at Nichols Run.
- Cobequid Trail Consulting are scheduled to conduct site work to evaluate the potential waterfall trail crossing on Nov 17, 2023. This work would determine if there were any potential issues extending the trail on the other side of the waterfall.

#### Update on the Capital Budget

- There are no additional funds proposed for 2020/21 budget. No additional funds were proposed until the 2022/23 budget.
- The cost associated with the WSP Bridge Crossing Design is \$54,555 (excluding tax), funding provided from the approximately \$89,000 that was previously approved;

- The cost associated with the Cobequid Trail Consulting Report is \$5,555 (excluding tax), funding provided from the approximately \$89,000 that was previously approved.

#### **Update on the WSP and Cobequid Consulting Work**

- With respect to the WSP Bridge Crossing Design:
  - The Preliminary report has been completed to compare the waterfall crossing to the Nichols Run crossing.
  - Options identified for material selection and high level costing provided.
  - Options identified for type of bridge best suited for the setting.
- With respect to the Cobequid Trail Consulting Report:
  - Site Visit scheduled later this month to explore the north side of the waterfall for potential wet areas that could impact future trail construction.