



STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 5, 2023 **FILE:** 0550-04 Board

TO: Chair and Directors,
Regional Board

FROM: David Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

RE: EMERGENCY ACCESS GATE INSTALLATION REQUEST – QUADRA ISLAND

PURPOSE/PROBLEM

To provide an update regarding a request to have the Regional District purchase, install and maintain a gate on Crown Land located on Quadra Island for emergency access purposes.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The attached report was considered at the February 8, 2023 meeting of the Regional Board at which time the following resolution was passed:

Mawhinney/Whalley: SRD 107/23

THAT the Regional District investigate and report the options to fund the installation and maintenance of a gate at the end of Sutil Road on Quadra Island, including the costs to local ratepayers if a 'defined-service-area' service were to be undertaken.

The Regional District has been advised that a gate has now been installed at the location in question without the involvement of the Regional District. It is assumed that the maintenance requirements for the gate will also be dealt with independently of the Regional District.

It is believed that the Regional District need not be further involved in resolving this matter.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer be received.
2. THAT the Regional District take no further action in respect of the installation or maintenance of a gate at the end of Sutil Road on Quadra Island for emergency access purposes.

Respectfully,



David Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

Prepared by: Shaun Koopman, Protective Services Coordinator

Attachment A – correspondence from Pal Horvath

Attachment A – Correspondence from Pal Horvath

From: Pal Horvath <palhorvath@twincomm.ca>

Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 2:03 PM

To: Shaun Koopman <SKoopman@srd.ca>

Subject: Re: Gate Location

NOTICE: This email is from an external source.

Dear Mr. Koopman.

Good news for you. Re; gate for fire escape route on Quadra Island. The woodlot people installed a gate, so you can take it off your "do nothing list"

I won't bug you any more. Pal Horvath.



STAFF REPORT

DATE: February 3, 2023 **FILE:** 0550-04 Board

TO: Chair and Directors,
Regional Board

FROM: David Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

RE: GATE INSTALLATION REQUEST – EVACUATION ROUTE ACCESS

PURPOSE/PROBLEM

To consider a request to have the Regional District purchase, install and maintain a gate on Crown land located on Quadra Island as part of an emergency evacuation route.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Regional District has received a request from a neighboring landowner to fund the installation and maintenance of a gate at the end of Sutil Road on Quadra Island (Attachment A) for the estimated cost of \$7,000. The gate would replace the boulders that are currently blocking vehicle access to provincial Crown land and the requesting party believes this would benefit residents by serving as a secondary egress route in the event of an evacuation. Currently the Regional District does not install or maintain infrastructure of this type.

Should the Regional District wish to fund such infrastructure it would need to determine whether to do so at a local level through the establishment of a service, or regionally through the existing emergency preparedness service. There is currently no local or regional inventory of the number and type of such circumstances as described in the letter, or the cost to the public of taking on such projects.

The following options are presented for the Board's consideration.

Option A – THAT the Regional District investigate the feasibility of establishing a service to fund the installation and maintenance of a gate at the end of Sutil Road on Quadra Island.

Option B – THAT the Regional District investigate the cost of funding evacuation route infrastructure throughout the region under the Emergency Preparedness service.

Option C – THAT the Regional District advise the requesting party that it is not prepared to fund the installation or maintenance of evacuation route infrastructure at this time.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer be received.

Respectfully:



David Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

Prepared by: *Shaun Koopman, Protective Services Coordinator*

Attachment A – map of proposed gate location

Attachment B – photo of proposed gate location on Sutil Road

Attachment C – correspondence from Pal Horvath regarding proposed evacuation route

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Attachment A – map of proposed gate location on Sutil Road



Attachment B – photo of proposed gate location on Sutil Road



Attachment C – correspondence from Pal Horvath regarding proposed evacuation route

Escape route from Sutil Rd. Quadra Island, in case of wild fire.

PH Pal Horvath <palhorvath@twincomm.ca>
To Shaun Koopman

☺ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...
Thu 2023-01-26 1:58 PM

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Dear Mr. Koopman.
You may remember, we asked you (the SRD) to finance a gate on woodlot # 42 to establish an escape route in case of a wild fire.
Your reply was: " it is actually illegal for us to use public funds to complete works / install infrastructure on private property for the benefit of private residents ".
I have information from the BC Ministry of Forests indicating that the logging road we want to use for escape route is in fact crown land, therefore is not private.
In view of this would the SRD pay for the establishment of an escape route.

I will send you the map of woodlot # 42 in a separate E mail .
Best regards. Pal Horvath.

Re: Response to Evacuation Route Cost Letter

SK Shaun Koopman
To Pal Horvath

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Alternative solutions could only be explored if it became a public (SRD owned) roadway, because those 48 homes you describe are all private residences and the property on which the infrastructure is installed is private as well.

During a Local State of Emergency should a request come from our Incident Commander that the logging road may need to be utilized under the emergency powers we can move the boulders and allow private vehicles to use it as an evacuation route, but that's only under that specific situation.

Re: Response to Evacuation Route Cost Letter

SK Shaun Koopman
To Pal Horvath

☺ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...
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boulders and allow private vehicles to use it as an evacuation route, but that's only under that specific situation.

From: Pal Horvath <palhorvath@twincomm.ca>
Sent: September 2, 2022 3:30 PM
To: Shaun Koopman <SKoopman@srd.ca>
Subject: Re: Response to Evacuation Route Cost Letter

**** NOTICE: This email is from an external source.****

Thank you for the fast reply, but I am somewhat surprised that as the Protective Services Coordinator you could not offer more ideas than Go Fund Me campaign. This is not " for the benefit of private residents" it is for the safety of the residents of 48 homes, that is a minimum of 96 people.
Pal Horvath.

Response to Evacuation Route Cost Letter

SK Shaun Koopman
To palhorvath@twincomm.ca

☺ Reply Reply All Forward 📧 ...
Thu 2022-09-01 11:58 AM

Pal

I appreciate the time and effort you and your neighbours went into obtaining the costs to complete this project, however this type of project cannot be funded by the Strathcona Regional District. It is actually illegal for us to use public funds to complete works / install infrastructure on private property for the benefit of private residents.

Have you considered an online donation campaign such as Go Fund Me?

Strathcona REGIONAL DISTRICT
Shaun Koopman M.A. - VA7MTJ
Protective Services Coordinator
301 – 990 Cedar Street, Campbell River, BC V9W 7Z8
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