

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Infrastructure Asset Manager

**FROM:** David Chen, Finance Director

**DATE:** October 26, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Old Mill Bridge - Budgetary Guidance

Following up on our preliminary discussion, I want to formalize the fiscal constraints we are facing regarding the Old Mill Bridge repairs. As you know, this year's budget is exceptionally tight due to unexpected storm cleanup costs from last winter.

Public works capital improvement funds are severely limited. For the bridge, we have a maximum of **\$150,000** that can be allocated without triggering a special budget review and likely a tax levy discussion, which the Council is determined to avoid.

I strongly urge you to find a solution that fits within this existing allocation. A proposal that requires new funding will face significant, likely insurmountable, opposition. Let's find a 'patch and pray' solution for now and defer major expenditures. We need a recommendation that is fiscally responsible in the short term.