

Quick-Build to Ultimate and In Between

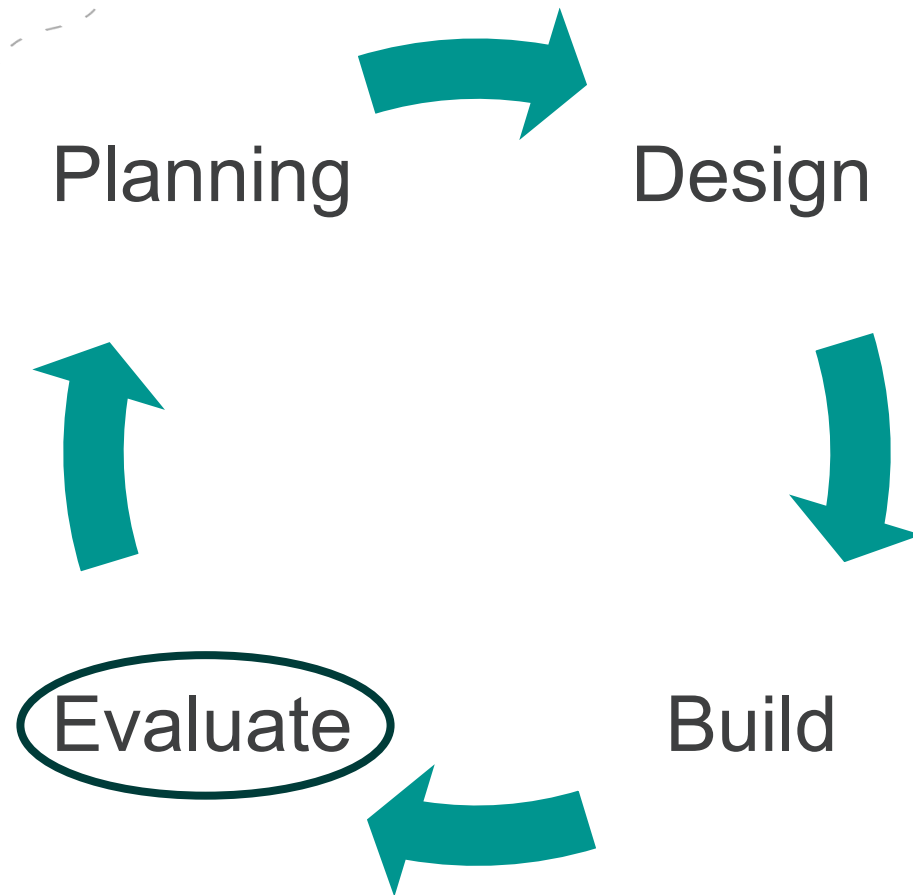
Lessons Learned from Lower Mainland Active Transportation
Facilities

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Today's Presentation

- Decisions
- Quick-Build
- Design Guidelines

Today's Talk - Closing The Loop





Making Decisions

Even when we don't know we are!

Tradeoffs



A decorative background on the left side of the slide featuring a topographic map with contour lines and some shaded areas.

Understanding Decisions

- Planning is decision-making and those decisions should be respected in design
- While design will still need to make decisions – they should be made in the spirit of the values/decisions previously established by planning

A decorative background on the left side of the slide featuring a topographic map with contour lines and some shaded areas.

Trickle-Down Engineering

- A high-level decision like “This facility will be quick-build” can have numerous implications for later design decisions
 - “Don’t relocate the curb”
 - “no third-party relocations”
- Coherence

A background image of a topographic map with contour lines and a dashed line representing a path or corridor.

Working in Parallel

- Planning decisions should consider and account for plans for infrastructure renewal on or adjacent to corridor
 - Transit
 - Pavement
 - City Utilities
 - Signals/Lighting
 - Developments (also hard to know)
 - Third-Party Utilities (hard to know)

A stylized topographic map with contour lines and a dashed line, serving as a background for the top left of the slide.

Timing

- High levels of forthcoming change on a corridor suggest a few things:
 - Quick-Build
 - Integrated Planning
 - Both!
- Development driven/delivered infrastructure is always appealing and always challenging

A decorative background on the left side of the slide featuring a topographic map with contour lines and a dashed line.

Quick-Build

- Usually meant to be quick/cheap, but consider which is more important
 - It can be expensive to build quick
 - It can be slower to build cheap

A person wearing a helmet and a blue jacket is riding a black bicycle on a city street. The street has a concrete curb and a small tree in a planter. In the background, there are houses and a street sign. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter and faint white topographic map lines.

Quick-Build

And what it means

A faint, stylized topographic map with contour lines and some shaded areas is visible in the background on the left side of the slide.

What Does Quick-Build Mean?

- No change to drainage pattern
- Minimal electrical/signals
- Improvements highly targeted towards achieving transportation goals

What Does Quick-Build Mean?



Photo Location (left to right): Douglas Crescent Langley, BC; 203 Street Langley, BC

What Does Quick-Build Mean?



Photo Location: Douglas Crescent Langley, BC

A stylized, light gray topographic map with contour lines and some shaded areas, serving as a background for the slide.

Networks

- Prioritize the transportation role of a given corridor in the network above the improvement of the corridor itself
- Confirm that the key connection that the facility creates will actually be created and is achievable with your quick-build toolbox – sometimes we may need to dip into more permanent changes to achieve our goal

A decorative background on the left side of the slide featuring a topographic map with contour lines and some shaded areas.

Corridors vs Places

- We often want to implement other improvements on a corridor concurrent with transportation – be conscious of schedule/budget impacts
 - Green Infrastructure/LID
 - Placemaking – plantings, furnishings, surface treatments
- Many reasons to do these things, but if you are, it probably isn't quick-build
- AAA doesn't require any of these things

A decorative background on the left side of the slide featuring a topographic map with contour lines and some shaded areas.

Harder Than it Looks

- Reusing existing infrastructure
- Minimizing future re-work
- Adjusting pavement markings
 - Actually easy, but ugly

Harder Than it Looks – Reusing Infrastructure

What you expected:

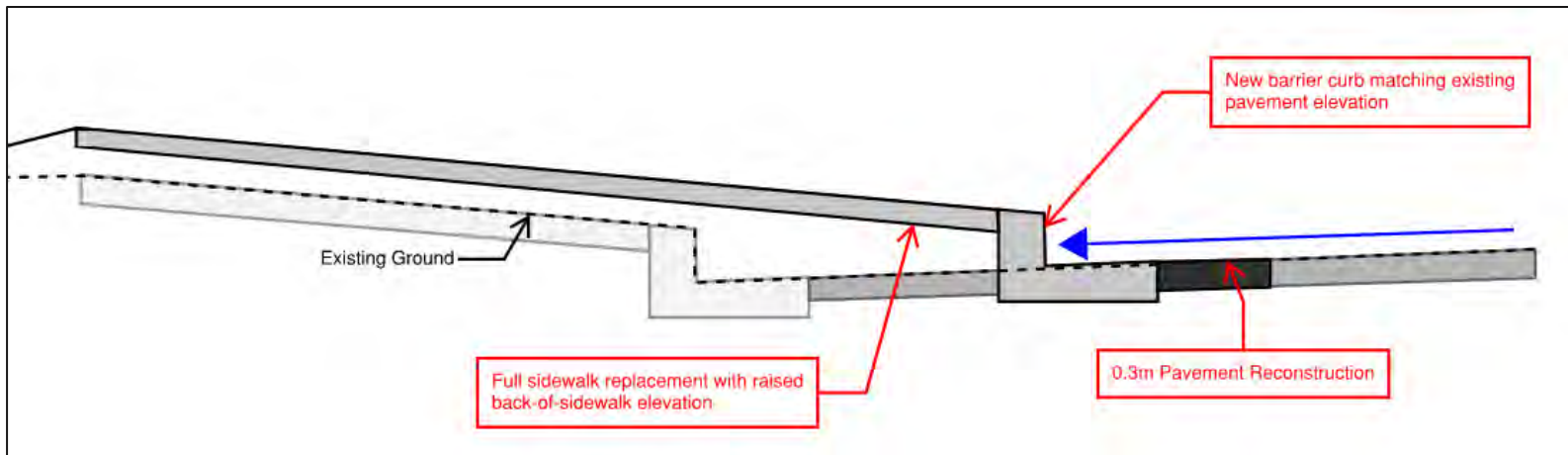
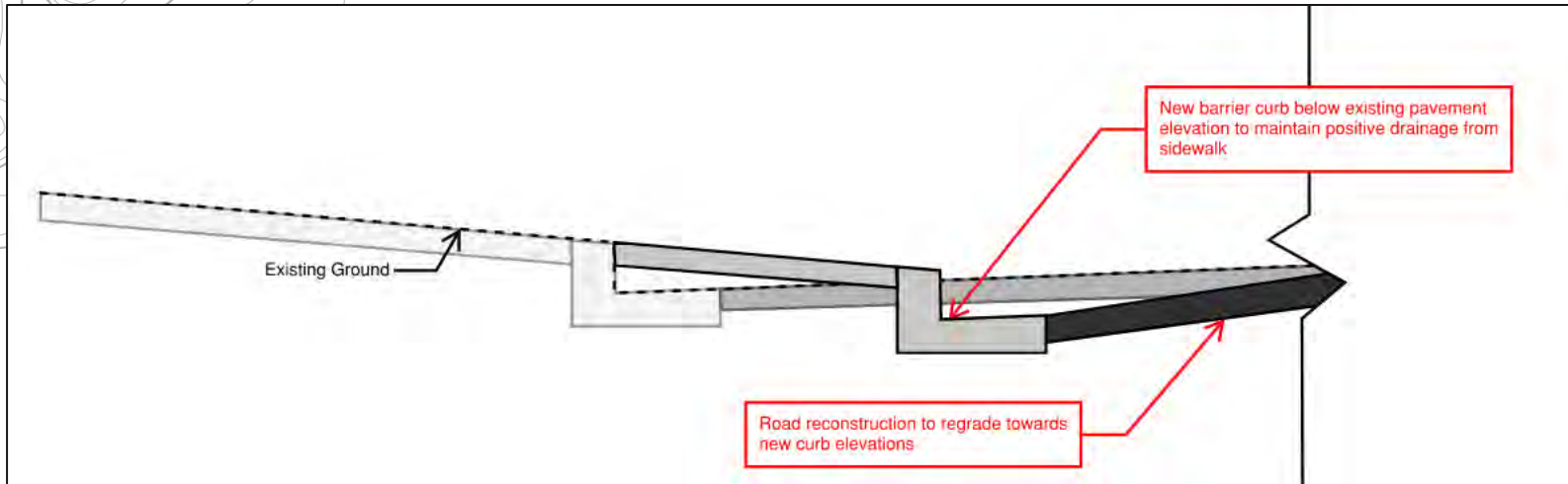


What you got:

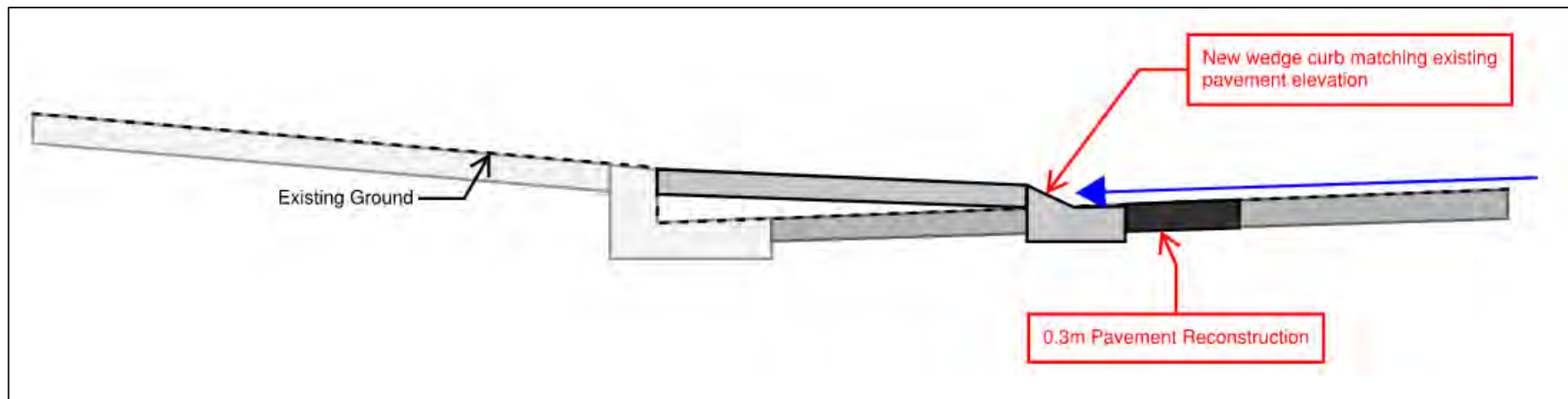
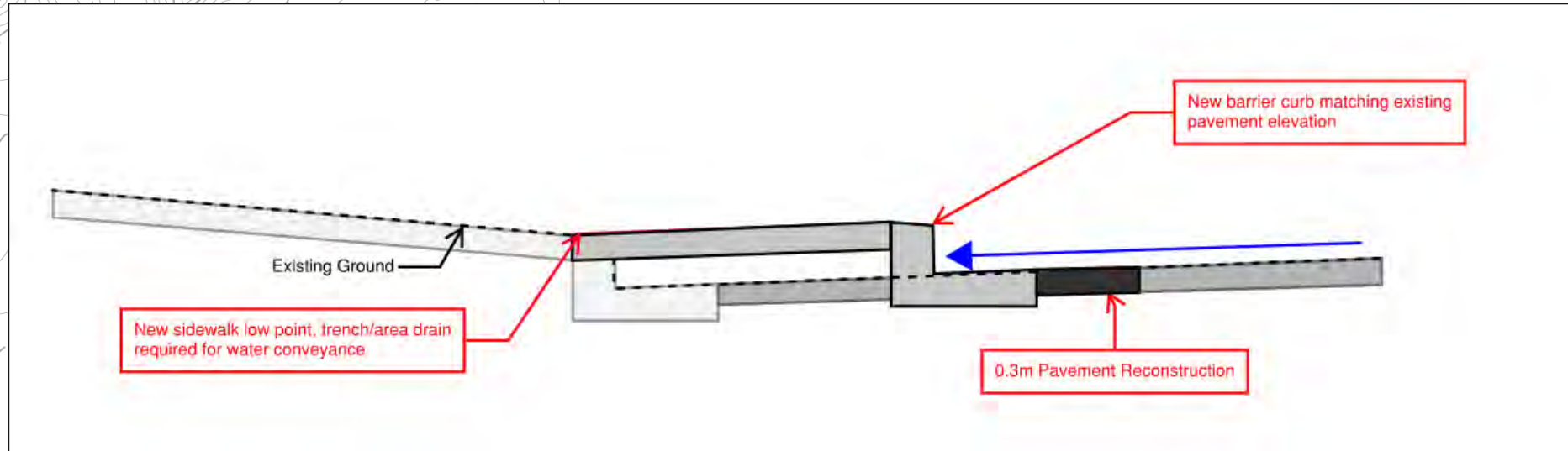


Photo Location (left to right): Douglas Crescent Langley, BC; Glover Road Langley, BC

Harder Than it Looks – Moving Curbs



Harder Than it Looks – Moving Curbs



A photograph of a cyclist riding away from the camera on a green-painted bike lane. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter and white topographic map lines. In the background, there are trees, buildings, and a street with cars. A signpost with a blue bicycle symbol and the text 'BIKE LANE' is visible. Another signpost with a white square sign and a smaller rectangular sign is also present.

Evolving Design Guidance

Always in motion, the future is

A decorative background on the left side of the slide featuring a topographic map with contour lines and some shaded areas.

Working with Guidelines

- AT Guidance is continually improving
 - Rote adherence to standards is the most expensive way to build
 - Engineering design necessarily includes adaptation of guidance to context – this doesn't have to mean compromising on safety/accessibility/etc.

A background image of a topographic map with contour lines and some shaded areas, primarily visible on the left side of the slide.

Evolving Guidance

- Not unusual for standards to evolve over development, considering elongated timelines
- Design criteria adjustment should be carefully considered

Summing Up



A stylized topographic map with contour lines and a dashed line, serving as a background for the slide.

Decisions

- Respect previous decisions
- Know when you're making a decision
- Be coherent

A stylized topographic map with contour lines and shaded areas, serving as a background for the top-left portion of the slide.

Quick-Build

- Be focused on your goals
- Be ruthless

A decorative background on the left side of the slide featuring a topographic map with contour lines and some shaded areas.

Design Guidelines

- Don't delegate your judgement to a pdf
- There is a bottom line, but quick-build means compromises

Thank You!



McElhanney