4 IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

4.1 Problem Statement

Bronk Road Bridge has been identified as requiring major rehabilitation work within the next five years and replacement within the next ten years. Some of the repairs noted within the MSII report are concrete patches on the abutment walls, girders and deck soffit, repair of the deck top as well as the removal and replacement of the barrier system. Tied into the barrier system, there currently is no roadside protection on the approaches to the structure to protect vehicular traffic from striking the bridge barrier or entering the creek. The existing structure is only one lane wide and provides a constraint to winter road maintenance operations. The costs to complete the repairs to this 80 year old structure are estimated at $230,000.

4.2 Opportunity Statement

As the structure requires replacement within the next ten years, an opportunity exists to address some of the safety issues and improve the entire road infrastructure in this area of the City. This bridge is an important link for the agricultural community to provide access to the 70+ hectares of prime agricultural areas located on both sides of Parks Creek and Bronk Road. A widened structure would provide easier access to farm machinery travelling along Bronk Road with more side clearance for the larger pieces of equipment utilized in today’s farming practice. A widened structure would also provide better visibility to the two entrances presently located immediately north of the existing single lane bridge. There is the opportunity of providing a wider structure with two lanes designed to current geometric standards, and the opportunity to improve safety at the bridge.