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Plan to thwart bridges shot down

By [SHAWN LOGAN](#)

The last gasp to sink controversial plans for a pair of pricey pedestrian bridges has collapsed.

A debate over the appointment of a world-renowned architect to design two spans over the Bow River and build one of them for \$25 million went behind closed doors last night after the discussion became heated.

Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart, who had three fellow-aldermen supporting her, tried for an 11th-hour halt to negotiations, demanded to know why Spanish designer Santiago

Calatrava was awarded a no-bid contract from the city and why council was not given the opportunity to weigh in on a deal signed just prior to year's end worth \$3.3 million.

The aldermen who pushed for the contract to be dropped lost on a 9-6 vote.

