

Aldermen seek full Deerfoot disclosure

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Aldermen will get an idea in November of what it would cost the city to take back responsibility for Deerfoot Trail.

"We want to know the full potential of operating and capital impacts if a transfer happens back to the City of Calgary," said Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart, who requested the report with Ald. Gord Lowe.

The province has said that possibly by mid-decade it would like to return control of the roadway to the City of Calgary.

A handover would likely come sometime after additional Stoney Trail extensions provide a north-south bypass route around Calgary.

While some aldermen wondered if it was too soon to get the information, Colley-Urquhart said it's better to be prepared.

"There's a significant amount of money at stake," she said, adding the province could always change its mind about the date. "We have to be very proactive around this."

The province has been responsible for the 50 kilometres of Deerfoot Trail for 10 years, covering the cost of snow clearing, safety upgrades and repaving.

Snow clearing and maintenance is said to run up to \$8 million a year, which is almost equal to a one per cent tax property tax increase.

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