

# Council asks for report about potential Deerfoot Trail takeover

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Roads - While a potential handover is still years away, two aldermen are asking for a report on the cost and risks should the city resume responsibility for Deerfoot Trail.

The province has said that in the future, possibly mid-decade, it would like to return control of the highway to the City of Calgary.

Aldermen Diane Colley-Urquhart and Gord Lowe are asking city council for a report that would outline what that takeover would mean in terms of costs and risks.

Colley-Urquhart said she's reluctant to take the province's word on the Deerfoot timing after it shortchanged cities on an infrastructure grant program.

"I really think we need to be really proactive, because who's to say they won't say they want to do it much quicker?" Colley-Urquhart said.

The province has said a handover would come sometime after further Stoney Trail extensions provide a north-south bypass.

Responsibility for the 39-year-old Deerfoot has sat with the province for a decade, meaning it's covered the cost of snow clearing, safety upgrades and repaving the 50 kilometres of road.

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

If approved by council Monday, a report would come back in November.

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