

**June 20, 2006**

## Description

Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation has commissioned a functional planning study for the southwest portion of the Calgary Ring Road, which will connect Highway 22X to Glenmore Trail/Stoney Trail. The study is currently under way and is expected to be completed by early 2007.

The process is being led by Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation in partnership with the Tsuu T'ina First Nation and The City of Calgary.

The purpose of this briefing note is to provide information on current status and next steps in the functional planning process, which include an information session for citizens on June 22, 2006.

## Key Contact

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## Current Status / Next Steps

- Land negotiations between the Province and the Tsuu T'ina are continuing. An approximate land area required for the roadway and utility corridor through native reserve has been identified.
- Further work on the ultimate design is also continuing. Ultimate bridge crossings for the Elbow River and Fish Creek are being finalized. Alignment of the roadway south of the reserve has shifted to the west.
- Environmental studies are nearing completion:
  - Fisheries work is complete.
  - The field program is almost finished.
  - The historical resources study is also nearing completion.
  - The bird survey is yet to be done.
- Public consultation is continuing. Communities are being contacted with updates and status of the project. A public information session is scheduled for June 22, 2-8 p.m. at North Glenmore Park Community Association, 2231 Longbridge Drive S.W.

- A Tsuu T'ina review of the Stage 1 plan and a subsequent vote on land and project details will be scheduled some time in the late fall of this year. Calgary open houses will be scheduled prior to the vote to show community members the Stage 1 plan.
- The Tsuu T'ina have still not finalized future land use along the corridor so a number of different scenarios are being modeled to look at what might be required for the Stage 1 build out.

## City / Stakeholder Roles

- The City is a partner in the Southwest Calgary Ring Road project.
- The City's role is to recommend portions of right-of-way to be included in the land negotiations to best accommodate city-wide transportation needs over the next 50+ years.

## Key Messages

### Rationale for the project

- Projected traffic volumes on Anderson Road and Glenmore Trail expressways exceed the available capacity based on the ultimate lane configurations. These roadways will not be able to handle the additional traffic over the next 50+ years of growth.
- To meet this need, The City of Calgary has agreed to secure lands as part of the project to widen Glenmore Trail between 37 Street SW and Sarcee Trail SW, and to enable possible future connections between the ring road and the city road network at 90 Avenue S.W. and Southland Drive S.W.
- Connecting to the Ring Road will:
  - Be consistent with The Calgary Transportation Plan key policies on balancing mobility with community and environmental quality and costs
  - Increase the efficiency of The City's transportation system
  - Result in a reduction of green house gas emissions and energy consumption by reducing travel times and congestion
  - Facilitate transit connections and access for emergency vehicles
- The City will continue to work with impacted communities to mitigate against negative impacts.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the Calgary Ring Road?**

Over the past 30 years, the City of Calgary and the Province of Alberta have planned for a high capacity road system around Calgary to accommodate The City's and the Province's future growth. The Calgary Ring Road is envisioned as a combined Transportation and Utility Corridor (TUC), designed to meet Calgary's growing population and provincial transportation needs, as well as accommodate major power lines, pipelines and municipal utility lines.

**What is the Southwest Calgary Ring Road (SWCRR)?**

The SWCRR is the connection of the Ring Road between Highway 22X and Glenmore Trail/Stoney Trail. Other portions of the Ring Road are either under construction or in the final stages of functional planning. Several alignment options for the SWCRR have been examined over the past 30 years and shared with the public.

The current SWCRR Project is a partnership that includes the Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation (AIT), the Tsuu T'ina Nation, and The City of Calgary. TransTech Engineering is developing the Functional Plan for AIT.

**What is the schedule of work associated with the SWCRR?**

Land requirements have been finalized, and functional planning work to develop a stage one plan is expected to be completed by late 2006 or early 2007.

The Province has not committed to the actual timing for construction of this section of the Ring Road.

**How can I get more information on the impact of this project on my community and me?**

For more information on the Southwest Calgary Ring Road, contact Alberta Infrastructure & Transportation:

- [www.swcrr.ca](http://www.swcrr.ca)
- [www.calgary.ca](http://www.calgary.ca)
- Aziz Merali, TransTech Engineering – [amerali@transtech.com](mailto:amerali@transtech.com)