



CHINOOK PARK
KELVIN GROVE
& EAGLE RIDGE
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

November 4, 2015

Ward 11 Councillor Brian Pincott
Historic Calgary City Hall
2nd Floor, 800 Macleod Trail South
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

Dear Councillor Pincott,

On behalf of the residents of Chinook Park, Kelvin Grove and Eagle Ridge, we are writing to you regarding the lack of opportunity for meaningful public consultation afforded to us by The City of Calgary (The City) for the development of the SW Transitway and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project.

As part of the response by many concerned community residents, a group has been formed called *Ready to Engage!* This is a coalition of SW Calgary citizens seeking to give a voice to those who have had none to date.

Although we understand that some form of the BRT proposal has been underway for the past five years, we believe that the public engagement process is deficient and that The City is not following Calgary City Council's *engage!* Policy made effective on May 28, 2003 (Policy Number: CS009) including The City's following promises:

1. *We will endeavour to provide information that is timely, accurate, balanced, objective, easily understood, and highly accessible. We will respond to questions for clarification.*
2. *We will listen to stakeholders and learn about their plans, views, issues, concerns and expectations.*
3. *We will consult with stakeholders to obtain feedback and ensure their input is considered and incorporated to the maximum extent possible. We undertake to advise how consultation affected the decisions and outcomes.*
4. *We will partner with stakeholders in a process that results in joint recommendations. We undertake to advise how collaboration affected decision making.*

These promises are given great weight by the Municipal Government Act, which imposes a duty on a municipality to comply with its own approved policies (section 5).

The City has not provided meaningful consultation in accordance with these promises. First, the information that appears on the project's website includes an incomplete, fragmented and outdated study (2011 Delcan BRT functional study) that provides no opportunity for public engagement. Second, although The City held two public sessions on October 27 and October 29, 2015, we were disappointed that these were not public *engagement* sessions but simply *information* sessions. In fact, this was not a stand-alone session for the SW Transitway & BRT but a combined session with the SW Ringroad. The information boards in our community were misleading and vague. They mention the SW Ringroad first and the Transitway below without pointing out that dedicated bus lanes will pass through our community.

The project information presented at these public information sessions was inconsistent with what appears on the project's website. The City has not provided us with sufficient information nor technical studies or reports that support the proposed SW Transitway and BRT. As of today, the new information on the project as presented last week still does not appear on the website and has not been forwarded to us.

As a reasonable request to begin to comply with The City's *engage!* Policy, we ask that all technical studies and reports pertaining to this project be shared with our organization for our review.

In our view, The City's Transportation Infrastructure division has failed to have a purposeful dialogue with us. They have not been able to use our feedback to inform this project as per the *engage!* Policy - because it is only now they have begun to receive our input.

There are several serious concerns that we have with the proposed project that we would like to have an opportunity to address and discuss with you. These include, but are not limited to: safety, security, environmental and access issues for our communities. These same concerns should be equally those of our institutional neighbours - the Rockyview Hospital, Carewest and Heritage Park. As discussed above, a separate but equal concern is the obvious lack of transparency in the process thus far.

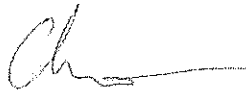
Finally, given what was said by City representatives at last week's information sessions, the bus only "shoulder" lanes would cause increased traffic congestion on the Glenmore Causeway bottleneck – a potential weak link in the BRT chain.

With the brief project timeline proposed and with construction slated to commence in the Spring/Summer 2016, we ask that:

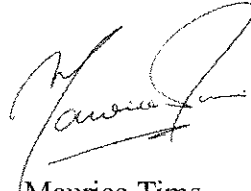
1. this project be put on hold;
2. meaningful public consultation be completed with all affected stakeholders; and
3. a viable and workable proposal be created to address our concerns and benefit SW Calgary as a whole.

We ask that you please consider a meeting with our CKE Community Association and its residents at your earliest convenience. Given the urgent nature of this matter, please provide us with some suggested dates and times for this meeting by November 10, 2015. We look forward to your response. My contact information is provided with my cover email. Please contact Maurice Tims, Chair, *Ready to Engage!* At 403-860-5086 or by email at info@ReadyToEngage.ca.

Sincerely,



Christopher Doyle
President, CKE Community Association
Chrisdoyle78@gmail.com / 403.837.7344



Maurice Tims
Chair, Ready to Engage!

cc: His Worship Naheed Nenshi, Mayor, The City of Calgary Councillor
Ward Sutherland, The City of Calgary, Ward 1
Councillor Joe Magliocca, The City of Calgary, Ward 2
Councillor Jim Stevenson, The City of Calgary, Ward 3
Councillor Sean Chu, The City of Calgary, Ward 4
Councillor Ray Jones, The City of Calgary, Ward 5
Councillor Richard Pootmans, The City of Calgary, Ward 6
Councillor Druh Farrell, The City of Calgary, Ward 7
Councillor Evan Woolley, The City of Calgary, Ward 8
Councillor Gian-Carlo Carra, The City of Calgary, Ward 9
Councillor Andre Chabot, The City of Calgary, Ward 10
Councillor Shane Keating, The City of Calgary, Ward 12
Councillor Diane Colley-Urquhart, The City of Calgary, Ward 13
Councillor Peter Demong, The City of Calgary, Ward 14
Mr. Jeff Fielding, City Manager & CAO, The City of Calgary
Mr. Malcolm (Mac) Logan, General Manager, Transportation Infrastructure
Mr. Doug Morgan, General Manager, Calgary Transit
Mr. Howard Kai, Project Manager, SW Transitway & BRT
Ms. Debbie Goulard, Senior Operating Officer, Rockyview Hospital
Ms. Christie Holan, Carewest Glenmore Park
Ms. Alida Visbach, President & CEO, Heritage Park Historical Village