



ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

September 12, 2024

AR 98531

Ms. Kourtney Penner  
Councillor, Ward 11  
The City of Calgary  
Office of the Councillors (8001)  
P.O. Box 2100, Station M  
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5  
[kourtney.penner@calgary.ca](mailto:kourtney.penner@calgary.ca)

Dear Councillor Penner:

Thank you for your letter requesting a meeting and information about the construction along Deerfoot Trail that is affecting your constituents. I would first like to apologize if you did not receive a response to your March 2, 2023 inquiry; our records indicate a response was provided to your office by my department on May 23, 2023. As Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors, I appreciate the opportunity to provide you with the most updated information.

#### Deerfoot Trail Improvements

Delivery of the ongoing Deerfoot Trail Improvements is being completed by Transportation and Economic Corridors, in cooperation with our consultant and contractor. The department's contractor is responsible for progressing designs and construction as per its design. However, as this is a provincial project, communications regarding the delivery of this work are being led by the department.

#### Project Communications

Transportation and Economic Corridors is aware of construction impacts in an urban environment and took several steps to appropriately communicate ongoing work before construction began, and throughout construction.

The project website ([www.deerfootimprovements.ca](http://www.deerfootimprovements.ca)) is the primary place for the public to access information regarding the ongoing construction. From the home page, individuals can select the improvement areas tab to view a full map of the areas being delivered under this program of work. Each improvement area is colored in its own defining colour for easy understanding. Specific information, including a short description of work being undertaken and an accompanying map (which can be downloaded and printed) is available to the public for every improvement area.

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Other information provided on the website includes: a Frequently Asked Questions tab, a Project Updates tab where past updates are posted for reference, and a Construction Notices tab where construction notices are posted for reference. Additional information regarding the history of Deerfoot Trail and photos of the work is also available. The contents of the project website will continue to be updated throughout the course of construction as new information is available. Members of the public are encouraged to subscribe to receive updates at <https://secure.campaigner.com/CSB/Public/Form.aspx?fid=1826242&ac=g1ax>. Members of the public are also able to contact the project team via email with questions or concerns during construction at [info@deerfootimprovements.ca](mailto:info@deerfootimprovements.ca).

In April 2023, just prior to the award of this project, members of the public were invited to attend an information session where my colleagues and I met with Calgarians. Attendees were able to view the overall program of work and engage with members of the project team who were available to answer questions.

In winter 2024, over 1,200 notices were hand delivered by project team staff to businesses adjacent to Deerfoot Trail between Douglasdale Boulevard and Peigan Trail, informing business owners that construction would be ramping up. The notice is attached for your reference. Additionally, a postcard mailer was sent to all mailing addresses in city limits, to increase awareness of the project among communities prior to construction commencing. The postcard is enclosed for your awareness.

#### Traffic Information

Travel on Deerfoot Trail through the improvement areas will be impacted for the duration of the project. All traffic updates are shared via 511 Alberta and through onsite signage. The project team also works closely with city administration regarding traffic impacts and coordination.

#### Communication with the City Administration

Project staff meet regularly with members of the City of Calgary administration, including Peter Rudolf, Senior Transportation Engineer, and Dwayne Coristine, Communications Strategist to keep them informed of ongoing progress, and to work together on items which require additional city input. City administration remains committed to informing council as work proceeds and is able to reach out to the project team directly with questions or concerns.

#### Impacts during Construction Delivery

Residents who live in communities next to Deerfoot Trail can expect to experience noise, dust, traffic congestion and delays, detours, lights, and other inconveniences associated with the delivery of a major infrastructure project. These impacts will be ongoing until the project is complete.

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Hours of Work

Overnight work is permitted by the contractor and will continue when required. Due to the high volume of traffic on Deerfoot Trail, overnight work is being utilized to advance the work safely, while reducing overall disruptions to the travelling public.

Noise Attenuation

At this time, no additional noise attenuation is planned along Deerfoot Trail. Members of the public who reside near Deerfoot Trail can expect to experience traffic noise similar to existing levels prior to this work. Should the city wish to provide residents with additional noise attenuation at the city's cost, I invite you to speak to city administration. Department staff are available to work with city administration to determine appropriate locations and options.

Ongoing nearby Construction

ENMAX is currently upgrading the existing Substation 32, on the east side of the river, south of the Ivor Strong bridge and adjacent to the community of Douglasdale. ENMAX's construction work is outside the scope of the Deerfoot Trail Improvements project. While ENMAX provided stakeholders with a newsletter outlining ongoing work (enclosed for your reference), I encourage you to contact ENMAX for additional specifics.

Although my schedule does not permit me to meet with you at this time, I appreciate you taking the time to write and for sharing your concerns with the Alberta government. I have asked that our officials coordinate a meeting with City administration and you to discuss your concerns with the project.

Sincerely,



Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA  
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

Enclosures

cc: Honourable Ric McIver, ECA, MLA for Calgary-Hays  
Honourable Tanya Fir, ECA, MLA for Calgary-Peigan  
Tom Loo, Assistant Deputy Minister, Construction and Maintenance Division  
David Duckworth, Chief Administrative Officer  
Peter Rudolf, Senior Transportation Engineer  
Dwayne Coristine, Communications Strategist