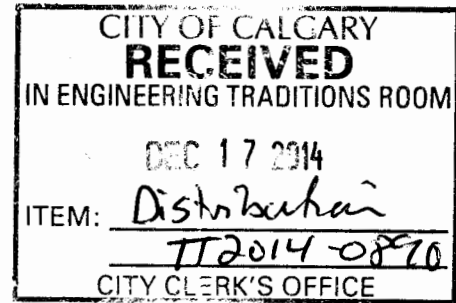


BIKE CALGARY

Historic City Hall (Sandstone Building)
700 Macleod Trail S.E.
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

December 17, 2014



Bike Calgary Comments Pertaining to the Keystone Hills Core Plan Update

Attention Councillor Keating, Chair SPC Transportation & Transit

Dear Councillor Keating,

Bike Calgary is pleased to provide comments on the Keystone Hills Core Plan Update. Bike Calgary has been keenly following the planning and design processes for the new Keystone Hills development, recognising it as a new direction for suburbs and the transportation infrastructure within them.

The Core Plan for Keystone Hills demonstrates a high-quality commitment to complete streets principles, one that is significantly improved over even more recent Calgary suburban designs. Land owners have asked for better quality active mode facilitation and this has come through with a permeable grid of streets that facilitate and promote walking, cycling and transit. All of this is delivered while still offering reliable automobile travel.

Unlike in past developments, Keystone Hills' cycling infrastructure recognises that cycling is not just for recreation, but for transportation to and from a wide-variety of destinations as well. Bike Calgary is particularly encouraged to see the inclusion of cycle tracks within the Plan. This form of infrastructure will promote cycling as a safe, comfortable and accessible form of mobility from day one, while significantly reducing retrofit costs.

Bike Calgary is though concerned about the inclusion of certain multi-use pathways, also known as boulevard pathways, within the roadway context. As we have consistently reiterated to City staff over the years, boulevard pathways have failed to represent a commitment to providing cycling facilities that are actually designed for cycling. The Complete Streets Guide recognises that they function poorly in contexts with high pedestrian volumes and numerous intersections, laneways and driveways. As such, the Guide specifically discourages against them in new developments. With this said, Bike Calgary recognises that boulevard pathways have a place and that they can be improved upon with quality treatments along the length of the infrastructure and at intersections. We trust the project team will reach out to Bike Calgary to address these concerns.

We respectfully ask that the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation and Transit recommend that Council adopt the recommendations in this report.

Sincerely,

<signed>

Kimberley Nelson
(President, Bike Calgary)

<signed>

Dale Calkins
(Vice-President, Bike Calgary)