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February 12, 2014

SPC on Transportation and Transit
City of Calgary Municipal Building
800 MacLeod Trail SE
Calgary, AB

Via: Email

Re: TT2014-0150 1 Street SE Cycle Track

Dear committee members,

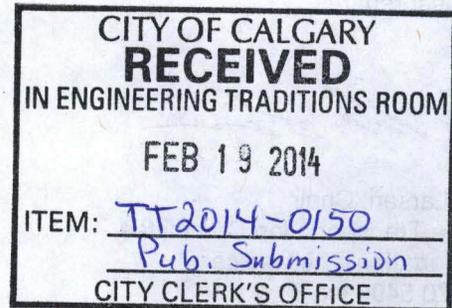
Beltline Transportation Committee (BTC) is strongly in favour of promoting active transportation in our neighbourhood. Specifically, bicycles play an important role in the transportation mix of a successful neighbourhood like ours. As such, we have been active participants in the Centre City Bicycle Projects Committee and the process to implement cycling infrastructure.

BTC supports the installation of facilities to allow the residents of Beltline to comfortably and safely ride their bikes around the community district, as well as to and from neighbouring areas. Connecting to work, school, leisure, shopping and other destinations is integral to a successful network.

Cycle tracks are supported by BTC as a good solution to providing separated cycling infrastructure as part of a multi-modal transportation vision for Beltline. They will provide a safe way for current and especially new cyclists to navigate through and around the community district. The pedestrian environment will also see benefits in terms of added safety by reducing conflicts with cyclists.

BTC is generally pleased with the cycle track network as proposed. BTC envisions both north-south running cycle tracks in the east and west of Beltline as vital to the success of a bicycle infrastructure network. The proposed route of 1st Street SE provides a plethora of advantages as an easterly connector:

- This route connects Beltline with downtown amenities via the underpass of the CPR tracks without a detour. Direct routes reinforce the cohesiveness of the corridor.
- New residential and commercial development is growing our community around 1st Street SE. The proposed cycle track serves the growing number of residents and businesses.
- The cycle track on this route would provide an important connection between the Bow River, the Elbow River and their pathway systems. This enhances city-wide connectivity both to and from Centre City. The rivers are valued recreation destinations and this route will provide safe and comfortable access to them.
- This route provides proximate cycle access to the LRT network via several stations. This extends the range of active transportation by offering regional mobility.
- Many iconic destinations and amenities can be easily accessed by this route, including Stampede, Talisman Centre, Olympic Plaza, Calgary Tower, Glenbow Museum, Epcor Centre, and others.



The cycle track network is welcome as cycling infrastructure in Beltline has been long-needed. BTC encourages the City to move forward quickly to implement the 1st Street SE route and build on the momentum of the growing cycling infrastructure in Centre City.

With best regards,



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