

## **Elbow Valley Cycle Club**

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The 848 members of Calgary's Elbow Valley Cycle Club support the development of the Centre City cycle track network, including and especially the one proposed for 1 St SE.

Our members represent a spectrum of ages from families to the fully retired. We have many members in the "interested but concerned" cohort who would ride more in or through the centre city if they felt safe.

Kudos to the City Administration for this bold initiative--the next step in transforming the city centre into a safer place for pedestrians and cyclists while at the same time making it more friendly and accessible. Studies and observations from around the world show that when we get more pedestrians and cyclists on our streets, business improves and real estate becomes more attractive.

Building direct cycle tracks makes the ride more attractive and just like we trust the work of the engineers who build our skyscrapers, EVCC trusts the work of the traffic engineers when they address the issue of traffic congestion and parking. Both will have minimal impacts and in fact, the number of parking spaces will be substantially increased as a dozen bicycles will fit into the space of one car.

Enhancing cyclist mobility on major streets will help turn Calgary into a pleasant and sought after community to live in as well as a healthy city to commute in.

Calgary has shown the world that it can be a leader of PRODUCING energy resources. Now it's time to show the world that we can be leaders in WISE use of those energy resources.

As Mahatma Gandhi noted, "there is more to life than simply increasing its speed".

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Doug McCulloch President, Elbow Valley Cycle Club