



Beltline Neighbourhoods Association
P.O. Box 82043, Connaught PO
Calgary, AB, T2R 0X1

December 1, 2019

City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100, Stn M
Calgary, AB, T2P 2M5

Re: Letter of Support for Always Available for All Ages & Abilities (5A) Network Principles

Dear Mayor Nenshi and members of City Council:

The Calgary & Area Pathway and Bikeway Plan was approved by City Council in 2000/2001. Since then, the needs of Calgarians have evolved.

The Beltline Neighbourhoods Association believes that all Calgarians should be able to get around Calgary safely, regardless of their transportation choice. This is why we support a network of pathways and bikeways for people of all ages, abilities, and incomes.

Pathways and bikeways allow Calgarians and visitors to explore and travel safely through the city. It connects us to our homes, our schools, our places of work, shops, recreation, and cultural venues.

It is important that this critical mobility infrastructure be built safely for all users. Safety can be achieved by separating vulnerable road users from faster-moving and heavier travel modes, by improved lighting and markings to make mobility corridors easier to see, and with the help of year-round maintenance to give users a predictable end-to-end experience.

Healthy and active places to travel, work, and play is part of what makes the Beltline, and Calgary as a whole, a terrific place to live and grow. We support an optimized pathway and bikeway network that serves more Calgarians more often.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin Schlauch
Director of Transportation
BNA



Letters of Support



Springbank Trails and Pathways Association
24271 Westbluff Drive
Calgary, AB T3Z 3N9

springbankpathways@gmail.com

November 26, 2019

Mayor Nenshi and Members of City Council
City of Calgary, The Office of the Mayor
West Administration Building
2nd Floor, 313 -7th Avenue SE
Calgary, AB T2G 0J1

Dear Mayor Nenshi and Members of City Council:

The Springbank Trails and Pathways Association (STAPA) appreciated the opportunity to meet with Kimberly Fisher (Livable Streets, Transportation Planning) and Julie Radke (Manager, Ring Road Integration & Special Projects at The City of Calgary) to discuss the City of Calgary's pathway system in respect to the Calgary West and Southwest Ring Road.

Our association was established to provide a safe and accessible, regionally integrated trail and pathway system connecting generations of residents in the Springbank community west of the City of Calgary. As you know Calgary and area has some of the finest landscapes in Canada for outdoor paths, trail training, cycling, or walking with the family. In Springbank, the exponential increase in the number of cyclists, runners, and families out on our roads and highways - from both our communities and increasingly the City of Calgary - unfortunately creates potential safety concerns. We support pathway planning that safely moves people through and across our communities.

The West and Southwest Ring Road not only provides a crucial transportation corridor for vehicles, it also provides the opportunity for a critical link for pathway systems. This connection goes from Highway 1 (Rotary/Mattamy Greenway, Bow River Pathway System) to Highway 8 (Griffith Woods Park, Clearwater Park) and eventually east to the Tsuu T'ina/Weaselhead/Glenmore Reservoir and west to the Bragg Creek pathway systems (via the Alberta Transportation identified pathway corridor along Highway 8). The opportunity to provide a safe and proper multi-use pathway within the Calgary West and Southwest Ring Road TUC alignment is one of our key goals. We were very excited to share this common goal with the City of Calgary at our recent meeting.

We support the City of Calgary with their planning initiative as follows:

- We support a network of pathways and bikeways that is designed for people of all ages and abilities.
 - Regardless of the trip purpose, children and seniors will be able to navigate the network.

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- Low-income individuals and vulnerable populations can use the network to get around.
- Pathways will be inclusive of people with mobility challenges who will also be able to access pathways and travel safely
- That pathways and bikeways are essential for people to move safely without cars and to easily connect across neighbourhoods linking to residential areas, schools, workplaces, shops, and recreation and cultural venues.
- Pathways need to strategically integrate across neighbouring City sectors and other jurisdictions to enhance connectivity and provide access to adjacent pathways and extended natural/recreational areas
- We agree that building for all ages and abilities improves safety because:
 - of separation of active transportation users from faster moving travel modes,
 - lighting and paint striping will improve visibility for all, and
 - year-round maintenance will provide a predictable and reliable experience.
- A network for all ages and abilities across neighbourhoods and jurisdictions:
 - Provides resilient, adaptable and affordable transportation and important extensions to recreation options.
 - Creates connected communities across the City and jurisdictional neighbours where residents (and people visiting Calgary) can provide alternative and sustainable choices to meet their day-to-day needs within their neighbourhoods, and enjoy recreational opportunities in adjacent jurisdictions.
 - Encourages healthy, active and sustainable lifestyles integrating outdoor spaces to live, work, and play.
 - Supports and builds a long-term sustainable system with more choices.
 - Works to improve and optimize existing infrastructure to serve more people, more often.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our concerns and support the City of Calgary on taking steps toward safe and accessible pathway systems, and supporting the legacy project which will serve future generations within multiple jurisdictions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.R.", is positioned above the typed name.

Ronda Rankin, President
Springbank Trails and Pathways Association (STAPA)
403-519-6870



Cc: Julie Radke, The City of Calgary
Kimberly Fisher, The City of Calgary

Letters of Support



www.twowheelview.org

December 11, 2019

Dear Members of City Council and Mayor Nenshi,

I am writing to you on behalf of Two Wheel View, a Calgary-based non-profit organization, in support of the Always Available for All Ages & Abilities (5A) Network proposal.

Two Wheel View's largest and most well-known program is our Earn-a-Bike program. Youth all over the city attend 10 weeks of after school programming, building their social emotional skills as well as learning bike mechanics. Upon completion of the program, the youth earn a bicycle, lock and helmet of their very own. For many of our teenage participants, this is the first time they've ever owned a bicycle. Our partners and schools tell us that our youth are using their bikes to get to school, to access additional city resources and recreation as well as get to part time jobs that help support their families. These bikes provide our youth with opportunity, freedom and physical recreation. Most of our participants are new to Calgary and these newly earned bikes give them the opportunity to explore their new home and build community as they discover their city. Each year Two Wheel View graduates more than 300 youth from our Earn-a-Bike program with more than 600 yearly having their lives changed from the seat of a bike in some way. We also partner with more than 40 schools and fellow agencies to make sure that all youth have the opportunity to participate in our Earn-a-Bike program.

It is important to us that the youth who earn our bikes have safe infrastructure in which to use them. The 5A Network will create off-street pathways and on-street bikeways that will keep our youth participants safe and allow them greater connectivity to the resources they need and use most- school, recreation hubs, fellow youth serving agencies, part time jobs and their social networks. Our youth are vulnerable and already deal with a multitude of barriers related to income, language, race and more. They deserve a safe, accessible and connected network that provides them with affordable options for transportation, recreation, socialization and fun. The barriers that our youth face make life unpredictable and they need a reliable network that can help them go about the business of being students, workers, siblings and children. We believe that young people who can explore and engage with their city are the ones who are going to best steward it going forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the 5A Network proposal. We look forward to continuing to work together to make Calgary the best place in Canada to be a youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Istead".

Laura Istead
Executive Director

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