

Palaschuk, Jordan

From: Barbaatar, Davaa on behalf of City Clerk
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2020 2:40 PM
To: Public Submissions
Subject: FW: [EXT] Opposition to Green Line LRT Updated Alignment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Email sent asking if OK to add to Agenda as is

From: mehdi keshtkar [mailto:m.keshtkar@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 4:10 PM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@calgary.ca>; Public Submissions <PublicSubmissions@calgary.ca>
Subject: [EXT] Opposition to Green Line LRT Updated Alignment

Green Line Technical Committee and Members of Calgary City Council

Attention: Councillor Shane Keating, GL Technical Committee Chair

His Worship, Mayor Naheed Nenshi

Councillor Druh Farrell, Ward 7, Greenline Committee member

Other Members of Calgary City Council

800 MacLeod Trail South

P.O. Box 2100, Station

Calgary Alberta, T2P 2M5

Submitted by E-Mail to Office of the City Clerk publicsubmissions@calgary.ca

MY CONCERNS REGARDING THE GREEN LINE LRT UPDATED ALIGNMENT (MAY 12, 2020)

Your Worship and Members of Calgary City Council,

The Green Line LRT alignment approved by Calgary City Council in 2017 committed to an underground tunnel beneath 2nd Street SW in the downtown core, the Riverwalk Pathway, Prince's Island Park, Bow River, Crescent Heights community, and Centre Street to 16th Avenue North. This approved alignment brought with it the promise to:

- Preserve and enhance public access and enjoyment of the Riverwalk pathway and Prince's Island Park;**
- Protect the wetlands and the birds, fish and other wildlife that call it home;**
- Revitalize the Crescent Heights, Chinatown, Eau Claire, Beltline and Victoria Park communities with the spirit of best practices of urban planning in mind;**
- Create a legacy LRT line to serve the long-standing needs of Calgary's growing communities; and**

□ Embrace and deliver on the vision of Calgary as a world class, vibrant, and walkable city where all residents can access and enjoy the beautiful natural setting and culturally diverse communities of the downtown core.

I understand and appreciate that due to funding and other concerns, City Council directed the Green Line Project Team to revisit the alignment and build approach in order to examine other alternatives, but the proposed revised alignment does not meet the commitments made to community residents.

Calgarians, like me and my neighbours, are still holding The City to these promises.

My Concerns

An updated Green Line LRT alignment was presented on May 12, 2020. I support the SE segment to the Downtown, but the alignment and the build approach north of the downtown core are unacceptable.

Specifically:

- Any LRT bridge over Prince's Island Park and the Bow River breaks the promises made to:
 - Preserve the park and its wetlands, birds and fish;
 - Maintain or increase access and walkability of the local pathways and park spaces;
 - Maintain the spectacular views of Prince's Island Park and the Bow River, which are currently enjoyed by the local residents and many members of the public visiting the area;
 - Enhance and revitalize the local neighbourhoods through the thoughtful addition of mass transit in a manner that respects the history and residents of those communities.

- The LRT bridge intersecting at the top of the Centre Street Bridge will impede southbound vehicle traffic, impair access to downtown and Chinatown, hurt business operators and festival / event organizers;
- Placing the LRT line at-grade (i.e. street level) with two center roadway train lines breaks the promise of a city-shaping initiative. It would create traffic barriers east / west, increase accident risk at intersections, deter people from visiting by personal vehicles.
- The proposed Green Line LRT alignment is a 'less than' approach where scope and quality is reduced to stay within the \$4.9B funding envelope. This, again, breaks the promise of a legacy mass transit system.
- An LRT Bridge over the river will have the impact of obstructed views, produce significant noise and light pollution and an overall negative effect on my property value.

As a local resident who stands to be impacted by the future Green Line LRT, I find the current proposal, with respect to the issues outlined above, unsupportable. This is our only opportunity to make the Green Line the best it can be – settling for an inferior proposal shouldn't be on the table.

I urge the Green Line Technical Committee and Members of Calgary City Council to revisit and rethink this segment of the plan. It should not, in its current form, be approved by Council at their June 15th meeting.

Sincerely,

Name: Mahdi Keshtkar

Address: unit 607 - 108 2nd street SW

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Mehdi KESHTKAR, Ph.D.

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Danny
* Last name: Haines
Email: hainesdanny@gmail.com
Phone: 4032008625
* Subject: Build the Green Line!

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The Green Line LRT project must be built on schedule. It is foolish to even consider delaying, shrinking or cancelling this project. Calgary needs more transit infrastructure and now is the time to build it. Let's take advantage of provincial and federal investments into our city and build this as soon as possible. This project will provide much-needed construction jobs in this time of intense unemployment and will set us up on the right track for when our economy is booming again. Construction companies will be eager to bid on this work and will provide highly competitive prices.

Build the Green Line now to meet our transportation needs now and in the future.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Leopoldo
* Last name	Jimenez Jones
Email	atlanticfreights@gmail.com
Phone	4034372949
* Subject	We Need The Green Line
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	We need the Green Line build



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Ramsey

* Last name bedet

Email

Phone

* Subject prosperous alberta

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

we need the green line and we need the oil industry to make the world go around.. other wise Calgary and alberta will die economically . none of us can afford this



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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The green line is essential to Calgary . I support this 100 percent .



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Siobhan

* Last name Snyder

Email siobhan112079@gmail.com

Phone 15875777345

* Subject Green Line a Go

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dearest City Council,

As a considerate Calgarian, I am writing you today to implore you to give the green line the go ahead. For the health of our city, the wellness of the people, the city streets and economy, the green line means that we all will live greater lives. With 30,000 tonnes of green house gases off the street everyday, 20,000 plus jobs and a community that brings people together to live better lives, Calgary will be online to shining like the greatness that brings us all here in this modern age...we should be living modern lives with a higher standard, and the realization of the green lines brings us closer to this goal.

Many blessings and considerations for you and all Calgarians in this time of transition. May the promise and potential for the greater good be realized.

Siobhan M Snyder



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Lorraine
* Last name	Thibodeau
Email	lorrainethibodeau17@gmail.com
Phone	4039222177
* Subject	Calgary needs jobs
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	It would be a shame to cancel the green line Calgary is in crises even before covid 19 Jobs are needed Do not cancel this project



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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

We need the green line to combat climate change, to create jobs, and to provide transportation for Calgarians. This city is not only for the wealthy.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jessica

* Last name Jarvis

Email jjarv611@gmail.com

Phone 4039785790

* Subject Jobs

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am very worried about the jobs of people in Calgary. We need the green line to make transit better. Thank you ??



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Carson

* Last name Schmidt

Email carsonschmidt419@gmail.com

Phone 5872244567

* Subject Cancelling the Green Line is a Terrible Message for Outsiders

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Our sprawling city is in desperate need of better transit coverage, and Calgary's South-east neighbour hoods are an absolute nightmare to commute from. Students going to the U of C will ride for 3 hours or longer each day just to go to school, and commuters fight over parking stalls, desperate to get to work for an affordable price. The green line will drastically improve commute times and reduce congestion, while providing new opportunities for all Calgarians.

The Green Line is an investment in the future of our city, and cancelling this project would be a sign to investors that Calgary is not worth their time or money. Investment in our communities will immediately follow the completion of this line, and prove to the world that Calgary is a great city worth international attention. We are already far behind other major Canadian cities, and it's disgraceful that our government is so unwilling to keep up with the times. Entering a recession is the perfect time for us to invest in our future, and the jobs created will keep our economy afloat much better than oil industry bailouts ever could.

Please, for the sake of all Calgarians who aren't wealthy enough to drive, for those too young, the eco-friendly and the disabled, don't cancel the Green Line.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Geoff

* Last name Granville

Email

Phone

* Subject Request to speak during the Greenline Cttee meeting on June/1

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like to take the opportunity to address the cttee during next Monday's meeting. My speaking notes would be based on the attached written document, which I understand was sent in too late to be included in the formal written record of comments.

Thank you, Geoff Granville



Guardian South Corporation
1188-3rd St., SE
Calgary, AB, T2G 1H8

27 May 2020

COMMENTS TO THE CITY'S GREENLINE COMMITTEE ON THE GREENLINE PROPOSAL

The Guardian South Condominium Corporation has the following comments:

- 1) Providing it meets current cost estimates and cost sharing commitments, Guardian South supports the alignment currently proposed by the City's Administration. It would bring great value to residents in this part of the Beltline in terms of convenience and connectivity. In addition, it should result in reduced traffic during events and thus improve the quality of life in the East Victoria Park region.
- 2) We note the latest alignment includes a crossing over the Elbow river after which the Greenline would track beneath 11th Ave from 7th St SE to 2nd St SW using a "cut and cover" approach rather than a boring a deep tunnel, in order to save costs and improve ridership experience. We support this approach from a financial perspective and also because it saves travel times for all while minimizing unintended interactions between pedestrians, vehicular traffic and the LRT in this densely populated and trafficked part of the city.
- 3) We support the location of a station between 4th and 5th St SE. Given the proximity to the Stampede area and future event centre, Guardian South strongly supports sensitive planning and development for the area around the station to meet livability requirements in concert with providing an energetic public realm. That is, the area must function both as an active meeting place and conduit for large crowds yet simultaneously provide an inviting public realm for local residents and enable and encourage local businesses to flourish during periods between events. Together with the expected construction of a new 5th St SE roadway and underpass beneath the CP Rail line, we foresee both challenges and opportunities in realizing this vision, and look forward to reviewing specific plans when available.
- 4) Similarly, the proposed station at Centre St must also be thoughtfully designed to provide Greenline passengers safe and convenient access to streets and avenues in all directions two blocks away from the footprint of the station, and particularly including 1st St. SW.
- 5) Guardian South recognizes Greenline construction will create significant hardships to residents and businesses along 11th Ave. It is expected we will contribute to, and comment upon, the details of road modifications and closures required during that period.

Thank you for your time.

GC (Geoff) Granville

President, Guardian South Corporation (CNN 1611563)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Ronald
* Last name	Antonio
Email	ronantonio9@gmail.com
Phone	4033555355
* Subject	Green line - STOP and let's rethink
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	let's move it back now



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rosalie

* Last name Sia

Email sia_rosalie@yahoo.com

Phone 4033995034

* Subject Support the Green Line

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Many calgarians like me were reallyying the transit reach to our work, I think with the green line this can help us and save our time especially during winter time.



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* First name	Lisa
* Last name	Lassman
Email	lisa.lassman@gmail.com
Phone	5875763648
* Subject	Green Line
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	The Green Line to be squelched doesn't make sense. It will create jobs, which Calgary is deficient in, it will also help with the elimination of fuel emissions. European countries are more public transport oriented its time for Calgary to consider the same. Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Yvonne

* Last name Schmitz

Email yvonnems@telus.net

Phone 403-240-0311

* Subject Support for the Green Line

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing to indicate my strong support for the immediate building of the Green Line LRT. I am a frequent user of the LRT and am convinced of the crucial importance of expanding our LRT system. Not only is public transit crucial for people who have limited access to other forms of transportation, but it makes so much sense in terms of us moving away from using cars to get around town. Currently, considering how spread out this city is, I often need to use my car to get to other quadrants of the city. I would rather have a way to get to every corner of the city via LRT. I have just turned 70 and hope to be able to keep driving for a few more years, but I am also thinking of perhaps 10 years in the future when I may no longer be able to drive. Having a great public transit system will be critical to mobility for Calgarians like me. Thinking of the needs of older people, people with disabilities and Calgarians with limited means, as well as the positive environmental impact, it is of great importance that the City proceed with the Green Line project on an urgent basis.



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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Grant
* Last name	Carlson
Email	
Phone	
* Subject	Green Line
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Cancel Green Line!



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Glenn

* Last name Gunson

Email ggunson13@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Green Line Cancellation

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As a resident of ward 14, I am deeply concerned about the talk of cancelling the green line expansion. An efficient and accessible public transit system is essential to a city that has been voted as " the best city in the world". This project will also mean jobs at a time when Calgary desperately needs them. There is no better time to proceed with a project of this magnitude then now. The green line must move ahead.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Lucretia

* Last name Martenet

Email lemarten@shaw.ca

Phone

* Subject Green Line

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support the continuation of the Green Line Project. Public transportation is important for many reasons, including helping keep down traffic congestion and improving the environment. The jobs created through this project would help many people struggling with the economic downturn. The city should put more into public transportation in general, and this project in particular.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Carole
* Last name	Léger-Kubeczek
Email	legerkubeczek@gmail.com
Phone	403-850-8867
* Subject	Support for the Green Line Project

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	As an owner with a property located in the targeted area, we strongly support the plan to build the Green Line. As already stated, it will give a boost to the economy with much needed employment and as an added bonus, the reduction of traffic downtown will have a lasting impact by cutting back on greenhouse gases. Time to think big, smart and outside the box.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Chelsea

* Last name Christie

Email chelsea.christie1@ucalgary.ca

Phone 4038307936

* Subject I support the green line

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I fully support the green line! Let's make Calgary a more pedestrian-friendly city.