



CRV champions and engages the public in the protection, appreciation & stewardship of Calgary's rivers, creeks, wetlands and watershed resources.

CITY OF CALGARY  
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Distribution  
CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

# Overview of CRV Comments re GreenLine LRT Bridge over Bow River

1990

- CRV formed by City Council for citizens to have input to policies re parks & river valleys

2009

- CRV helped write Calgary Transportation Plan Appendix B, ***Principles & Design Considerations for River Crossings***

# Overview of CRV Comments re GreenLine LRT Bridge over Bow River

2016-17

- CRV participated in multiple GreenLine station workshops, charrettes, etc.
- Supported plan for Bow River tunnel (fewer environmental impacts)

2019-20

- Plans for tunnel scrapped
- Replaced by plans for bridge, using same alignment as tunnel (no evidence of determination of **best bridge location**)
- Were Calgary Transportation Plan Principles for River Crossings followed?



# Overview of CRV Comments re GreenLine LRT Bridge over Bow River

CTP Principle 1: Demonstrated  
Need For Crossing

Apply Triple Bottom Line  
Framework

Economic

Environmental

Social

# Overview of CRV Comments re GreenLine LRT Bridge over Bow River

## CTP Principle 2: Advanced Planning for Appropriate Siting

Proposed siting based on old tunnel  
alignment vs best siting for bridge?

Bridge is  
development within  
“watercourse  
ecosystem”

Consider impacts of  
water volume &  
erosive power of  
water

Consider river  
channel movement,  
entrenchment, etc.

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CTP Principle 3: Adherence to  
Recommendations of Biophysical & Social  
Impact Assessments

BIA & other studies not completed before siting  
recommendation

Consider  
impacts on  
plants / animals

Consider  
seasonal &  
climate changes

Consider viable  
wildlife habitat,  
including fish

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CTP Principle 4: Minimization of Impacts  
Through Design & Rehab Requirements

Significant impacts on Bow River: 12 full-  
span bridges within 2.5 km of area

No natural  
riverbank within 4  
km of downtown

Cumulative  
impacts from  
multiple bridges

Opportunity to do  
better, repair  
riverbank & restore  
function

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## CTP Principle 6: Effective Policies, Regs, Guidelines & Enforcement

Planning & design of bridges must be governed  
by environmentally responsible legislation

Natural areas  
contribute to quality  
of life

Biodiversity should  
be considered in  
planning decisions

Well-managed  
riverbank areas →  
cleaner water, faster  
recovery after floods



# Overview of CRV Comments re GreenLine LRT Bridge over Bow River

2020

- Competing forces & voices regarding GreenLine
- But project must adhere to CTP Principles for River Crossings

2020-2027

- Request rigorous studies of environmental & social impacts prior to bridge alignment siting
- Request such studies be made publicly available
- Request protecting, as much as possible, the natural asset of river valley & wildlife corridor

***Submission provided by Calgary River Valleys June 1, 2020***