

# Background

In 2011 Council directed that a new long-term plan for Calgary Transit be created in accordance with the Calgary Transportation Plan (CTP). The RouteAhead strategic plan was developed to guide both operations and investment in transit over the next 30 years. The plan was approved by Council in 2013. RouteAhead establishes a clear vision for transit in Calgary and will be used by City Council and Administration to make informed decisions regarding customer-centric improvements, investments in capital and operating budgets, service changes and other major business decisions.

In 2018, Council directed the RouteAhead team to develop open and transparent criteria that was easy to understand, easy to apply to a variety of transit capital projects, evaluated relative benefits of various projects across the city and could be replicated in the future with different projects. The general outcomes desired for future projects reflect those in the RouteAhead document:

- Support of Land Use
- Improving the Customer Experience
- Provision to serve high ridership and overall mobility

In 2019, Council approved the guiding framework for the prioritization of Future RouteAhead Capital Projects. The intention of the framework was to use criteria and weighting to produce an assessment of the rapid transit projects based solely on benefits first, independent of capital and operating cost constraints. The second part of the approach was to compare the projects against the net operating costs and capital costs, to evaluate the relative benefits, value and financial impacts.

## Previous Council Direction

DATE	REPORT NUMBER	DIRECTION/DESCRIPTION
9/30/2020	TT2020-1082	<b>RouteAhead Project Prioritization Report Deferral</b> Deferral request was approved for the RouteAhead Project Prioritization report to not later than the end of Q4 2020 to allow for improved alignment with the ongoing capital infrastructure planning processes.
12/18/2019	TT2019-1590	<b>Deferral of the RouteAhead Project Prioritization Report to no later than the end of Q3 2020</b> Deferral request was approved to defer the RouteAhead Project Prioritization report to no later than Q3 2020.
7/22/2019	TT2019-0637	<b>Direction for framework for future stages of rapid transit</b> Council adopted Administration's recommendations contained in report TT2019-0637 and directed Administration "to use the framework and list of major transit growth projects in Attachment 1 for prioritizing the future stages of growth of the rapid transit network, and provide an update through the SPC on Transportation & Transit by Q4 2019."

12/6/2018	TT2018-1405	<p><b>Direction to prioritize major transit growth projects by 2019 Q3</b></p> <p>Green Line: Staging and Right-of-way and RouteAhead Update – Deferral Request, was approved with the recommendation that “Council approve Administration’s request to defer the reports on ... ‘RouteAhead Update to prioritize major transit growth projects’ to no later than 2019 Q3”.</p>
6/25/2018	TT2018-0617	<p><b>Direction to use framework for major transit growth projects by 2019 Q1</b></p> <p>RouteAhead Update was approved with the recommendation that Council “Direct Administration to use the attached prioritization framework for major transit growth projects and provide an update to Council through the SPC on Transportation &amp; Transit by Q1 2019”.</p>
1/14/2013	TT2012-0833	<p><b>Direction to prepare annual status report of RouteAhead</b></p> <p>RouteAhead: A Strategic Plan for Transit in Calgary, was approved with the recommendation that Council direct Administration to prepare an annual status report on implementation of RouteAhead. Reports providing updates were subsequently prepared annually from 2013-2018.</p>