



September 2, 2021

Calgary Planning Commission

Sent via email [cpc@calgary.ca](mailto:cpc@calgary.ca)

**RE: CPC2021-1038 144 Ave NW**

Thank you for providing us with opportunity to provide comment on the Report regarding the 144 Ave NW Functional Planning Study which includes 1.2km of new arterial roadway and a bridge crossing over West Nose Creek. Please distribute our comments to CPC Members, thank you.

Calgary River Valleys (CRV) as part of its mandate provides a platform for our members and partners to provide comments on development particularly relating to our Rivers, Creeks, and Valleys. This proposed development came to our attention upon publication of the Notice of Application and invitation to comment under the Canadian Navigable Water Act, August 12, 2021.

Since that time we have attempted to contact members of City administration for detail, but we have not yet had response. We were advised on August 31, that this report was coming before you and we feel obliged to advise of concerns that have been raised by our members by the preliminary information available to us.

We understand the proposal is for a six lane arterial vehicle roadway with a bridge crossing of the West Nose Creek Valley. Our observations:

- The six-lane roadway will be a major barrier to the wildlife corridor through the Nose Creek Valley and will likely require some sort of fencing in the future to avoid wildlife collisions and deaths. We note that the project also includes noise abatement walls, as the roadbed leaves the valley which we would expect to require wildlife to concentrate passage in the valley.
- The six-lane roadway will replace existing natural habitat and we anticipate a requirement for the construction of storm ponds related to the hardscaping road within the valley to replace natural habitat.
- The proposed bridge will require destruction of the existing creek channel and a rechanneling that will shorten the length of the creek (altering hydrolic elements), and will change the habitat elements from their existing natural state. We note the lands being destroyed under the bridge, as well as up and downstream of the bridge will be largely riparian.

- There will be impacts on the open spaces in the West Nose Creek Valley but the greatest concern is how they are connected to each other for natural functions and wildlife corridor.
- A major concession to losses and impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem functionality because of urban development is to ensure high-quality corridors for wildlife passages. The information available to us suggests the design of this proposed bridge does not provide these compensations adequately. The current design, as shown, will be problematic in terms of humans and wildlife sharing the corridor as proposed.
- Members of CRV have noted the proposed changes to the creek bed and shore in regard to the a man-made bottom and armored shoreline. We would like an opportunity to engage with aquatic specialists regarding impacts to the introduced trout species that now use the Creek, and more particularly, the impacts on the native white suckers, minnows, and stickleback species, as well as to amphibians and reptiles known to have inhabited the valley.

We ask that you receive this submission for information on this file.

We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss our concerns about CPC2021-1038 in more detail with you. Feel free to contact us by email to [CalgaryRiverValleys3@outlook.com](mailto:CalgaryRiverValleys3@outlook.com) or by phone at 403.542.1663.

Sincerely,

Bill Morrison, President

Calgary River Valleys