

Report Number: C2021-1181

Meeting: Combined Meeting of Council

Meeting Date: 2021 July 26

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: Reducing Risk on Southwest Calgary Ring Road

Sponsoring Councillor(s): Diane Colley-Urquhart and Jeromy Farkas

WHEREAS:

1. On October 1, 2020, the first phase of the Southwest Calgary Ring Road (SWCRR) between Glenmore Trail and Fish Creek Blvd. was opened.

- 2. The Government of Alberta is responsible for the design, construction, management and operation of Calgary's Ring Road, while the City of Calgary is responsible for the design and construction of street connections to the SWCRR, road improvements, and intersection improvements, because they are located within city limits.
- 3. City-led SWCRR connection projects will accommodate changes to traffic volume and patterns that are expected after the opening of the Southwest Ring Road. These projects include: Glenmore Trail widening and interchange upgrades, Anderson Road widening, 90 Avenue and Southland Drive connections, Spruce Meadows Way widening, 162 Avenue connection, and Westhills Way.
- 4. Many residents of West Calgary communities, including Oakridge, are very concerned with the changes in risks along connecting roadways since the partial opening of the SWCRR, including stunt racing, more traffic, faster traffic, and heavier commercial truck traffic.
- 5. 90th Avenue SW (between 24th Street and Oakmount Drive) sees significant pedestrian traffic from local residents, including children, who frequent the splash park, Glenmore Reservoir, tennis courts, bike pump track, fishing, kite flying, cross-country skiing, Quinterra Legacy Garden, Sailing School, hiking, and other amenities.
- 6. On April 14th, a teenager suffered critical injuries after being hit by a westbound SUV while crossing the road at a signed and marked crosswalk at 90th Avenue and Bay Ridge Drive SW. The community has documented and shared numerous collisions and near misses resulting from traffic that is likely coming off or heading to the SWCRR.
- 7. Local residents have formally requested that the City explore and implement solutions, which may include but are not limited to: installation of playground zone, speed reductions, speed bumps, improved crosswalks, pedestrian overpasses, photo radar, truck bans, flashing cross lights, renaming of 90th Avenue to reflect its residential nature, and lowering the ranking for GPS apps such as Google Maps.
- 8. City Administration is aware of these issues and plan to reduce risk along SWCRR connections by adding appropriate mitigating measures such as enhancements to signed and marked pedestrian crossings and installing traffic controls as a priority for this year. City administration also plans to perform studies this year and deploy Speed Limit Observation and

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- Warning System (SLOWS) trailers along 90th Avenue SW to remind motorists of the speed limit.
- 9. There is an immediate need to address concerns on SWCRR Connections, such as 90th Avenue SW and Fish Creek Boulevard SW, as well as take a more proactive approach on connections likely to be similarly impacted with the expected complete opening of the SWCRR by the end of 2021.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DIRECTS ADMINISTRATION TO

- 1. Consider community ideas to reduce risks on the Southwest Calgary Ring Road (SWCRR) connections, such as 90th Avenue SW and Fish Creek Boulevard, for immediate consideration and implementation in accordance with transportation policy and budget.
- 2. Perform comprehensive traffic safety audits of SWCRR connections, including 90th Avenue SW, and Fish Creek Boulevard, and confirm the mitigation strategies and studies planned for later this year.
- 3. Based on the lessons learned from the above work, prepare a scoping report for a more comprehensive traffic safety plan addressing the future SWCRR connections, including an implementation plan and potential resourcing requirements to be ready in time for the opening to traffic.
- 4. Report back with an update on the above to Council through the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation and Transit Committee on September 1, 2021.