

MACLEOD TRAIL CORRIDOR STUDY – DEFERRAL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Administration requests to defer the Macleod Trail Corridor Study Report to the 2015 May 20 meeting of the SPC on Transportation and Transit, to provide additional time to examine the impacts of separating study recommendations, provide a level of detail and information related to the project's recommendations similar to that provided for the Shaganappi Trail Corridor Study (TT2015-0099), and synthesize the additional information obtained from internal stakeholders.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the SPC on Transportation and Transit recommend that Council approve Administration's request to defer the Macleod Trail Corridor Study Report to no later than the 2015 May 20 meeting of the SPC on Transportation and Transit.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPC ON TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT, DATED 2015 FEBRUARY 18:

That the Administration Recommendation contained in Report TT2015-0122 be approved.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

At the 2014 October 10 Meeting of the SPC on Transportation and Transit, the following Motion was carried:

REFER, Moved by Councillor Carra, that Report TT2014-0665 be referred to Administration to return in Q1 2015 with:

1. Revised Recommendations that offer the ability to support or defeat individual elements of the Recommendations contained with the Report; for example – Retaining or removing the 25th Avenue interchange; and
2. Options for fast-tracking elements of the Report; for example the South LRT Service Road Bike Track; and
3. Alternative Options for cost effectively increasing pedestrian safety along Macleod Trail if this ultimate plan is wholly or in part rejected.

BACKGROUND

The Calgary Transportation Plan (CTP) envisions Macleod Trail from 25 Avenue S.E. to Anderson Road redeveloping from a major street into an Urban Boulevard. The primary function of an Urban Boulevard is to accommodate all modes of transportation in a high density, moderate speed urban environment. It will focus on the pedestrian realm, while still accommodating through traffic. Macleod Trail is also identified as a Primary Cycling Route, Primary Transit Route and a candidate high occupancy vehicle (HOV) route. The CTP envisions Macleod Trail south of Anderson Road as a skeletal road (expressway).

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The Macleod Trail Corridor Study was initiated to examine how Macleod Trail could be transformed into an Urban Boulevard in keeping with the CTP's vision.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

Administration has worked closely with key internal stakeholders to examine the requirements for expediting elements of the Macleod Trail Corridor Study recommendations, such as the South LRT Service Road Bike Track.

An examination of pedestrian safety along Macleod Trail is being undertaken in order to examine opportunities for cost effectively improving the pedestrian realm, outside of the recommendations set forth in the Macleod Trail Corridor Study.

An enhanced level of information is being compiled to foster a stronger understanding of Macleod Trail's role and function within the greater transportation network of South Calgary and how the CTP vision of an Urban Boulevard can be achieved and will support adjacent land use and redevelopment goals.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

Coordination with several key internal City stakeholders has been undertaken to understand the elements required in achieving the objectives of the Referral Motion. The stakeholders included members of City Council as well as representatives of City departments including Roads, Traffic Safety, Liveable Streets, Corporate Properties, Law and Calgary Transit.

Strategic Alignment

The deferral request will not impact strategic alignment.

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

There are no significant social, environmental or external economic impacts associated with this deferral request.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

Current and future operating budgets are not impacted by the deferral request.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

Current and future capital budgets are not impacted by the deferral request.

Risk Assessment

There are no significant risks associated with the deferral request.

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REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

Administration requires more time to examine the impacts of separating study recommendations, provide a level of detail and information related to the project's recommendations similar to that provided for the Shaganappi Trail Corridor Study, and synthesize the additional information obtained from internal stakeholders.

ATTACHMENT(S)

None