

Operational Services Briefing to  
Intergovernmental Affairs Committee  
2024 December 18

ISC: UNRESTRICTED  
IGA2024-1226

## Tsuut'ina Transit Service Update

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### PURPOSE OF BRIEFING

Administration received direction from Council [IGA2022-1232] to begin discussions with Tsuut'ina Nation, Tsuut'ina Nation Public Works, and Taza Development to explore opportunities to provide public transit service to developments on Tsuut'ina Nation. Discussions between all parties began in 2023, and an update was provided through the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee in 2023 December [IGA2023-1319], which committed to bringing this briefing report by the end of 2024.

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Discussions were on pause through most of 2024 as Tsuut'ina Nation's consulting team changed over. Discussions restarted in Fall 2024, and Administration has been collaborating with representatives of Tsuut'ina Nation and their consultants (Arcadis) to produce a transit service plan that will connect the Taza Villages (Buffalo Run, Taza Park, and The Crossing) and the City of Calgary. Connecting Tsuut'ina Nation and City of Calgary with public transit service will provide mobility and economic benefits for residents and businesses of Calgary and Tsuut'ina Nation.

Since restarting discussions topics have included:

- Potential service plans/transit routes
- Potential timelines for implementation of service
- Shared operating cost models
- Timeline of development/build-out of the three Taza villages
- Infrastructure costs and responsible parties
- Parties that need to be engaged/approve agreements such as Tsuut'ina Band Council, and Calgary City Council

All parties are eager to continue discussions and complete negotiations to be able to implement transit service. Next steps include:

- Developing and executing Heads of Agreement, which clarifies each parties' roles and responsibilities. This agreement will come through the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee (IGA) when it is ready for approval
- Confirming parties that are responsible for enforcement of local bylaws/law/regulations
- Negotiating and agreeing on an operating cost model
- Confirming the transit service plan (i.e., routes, frequency, etc.)
- Agreement on a timeline for service introduction
- Infrastructure construction (i.e., bus stops) by Taza Development Corporation

Alberta Transportation has confirmed commercial vehicle inspection permits (CVIP) are required for Calgary Transit vehicles providing this service because the vehicles are leaving Calgary's geographic boundary. Additionally, Calgary Transit Access is not being considered as part of this plan because that service is only offered within Calgary.

# BRIEFING

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The timeline for service introduction is dependent on successful closure of negotiations and approvals by Tsuut'ina Band Council and City of Calgary Council. Tsuut'ina Nation is interested in having an agreement in place by 2025 May with transit operations starting in 2026. Administration will provide an update on progress when a request to approve the Heads of Agreement is brought to Calgary City Council.

## ATTACHMENT(S)

1. NA

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General Manager Doug Morgan concurs with the information in this Briefing.