



PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

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ENDORSEMENT STATEMENT ON TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION, ANTI-RACISM, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

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First name [required] Zachary

Last name [required] Barrett

How do you wish to attend?

You may bring a support person should you require language or translator services. Do you plan on bringing a support person?

What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required] Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning

Date of meeting [required] Jul 21, 2025

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

[required] - max 75 characters Naato’siyinnipi (Aurora) Area Structure Plan"

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required] In opposition

ATTACHMENT\_01\_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT\_02\_FILENAME

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am vehemently against this project in this area. Having lived in this area my entire life I know how beloved this natural space truly is by the people in the community, people have walked the dirt paths and it's been used as a dog park for years now. It is also, as acknowledged by the plan, a large historical area with potential for more historical sites to be uncovered. I don't see the benefit to turning this area into largely concrete and private property when it could largely benefit the city, community, and area as a whole to encourage the natural use of the area as it is. Add infrastructure for proper pathways, explore the potential historical sites to see just how important the area is, add educational boards to help show the significance of these sites as well as the wildlife and natural fauna that populate the area. In many European cities this concept has been done extremely well, Madrid has many parks around historical areas, Valencia has a large winding park down its centre, both of these cities attract an incredible amount of tourism that flock to these areas. I feel that by taking away the natural beauty and significance of the area the city is missing out on a HUGE opportunity to help reconnect the people with the land we live on, despite the proposal constantly bringing up just how important the land is. Right across Harvest Hills BLVD there is a golf course that does not contribute to the community even half as much as the planned development area already does. I believe investing in that area would be far more beneficial to the city and community rather than destroying an already beneficial area.



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ATTACHMENT\_01\_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT\_02\_FILENAME

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The Aurora (Naato'siyinnipi) Area lands have spiritual significance to the Blackfoot Confederacy and is also one of the only two nesting habitats for the Western Meadowlark in Calgary. The meadowlark is a unique species that would be impacted detrimentally by the loss of this habitat. The loss of green space would not only impact the biodiversity that relies on these dwindling grassland habitats, but also the new and surrounding communities that enjoy the area for recreation and as a way to connect with nature. This area has very limited accessible green space and it is being removed at an increased pace the past few years. Access to the remaining greenspaces is not keeping pace with the removal of what is left behind and should be a requirement of all business that are adjacent to the spaces.

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First name [required] Diane

Last name [required] Ward

How do you wish to attend?

You may bring a support person should you require language or translator services. Do you plan on bringing a support person?

What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required] Standing Policy Committee on Community Development

Date of meeting [required] Jul 14, 2025

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

[required] - max 75 characters Naato'siyinnipi (Aurora) Area Structure Plan".

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required] In opposition



### Public Submission

CC 968 (R2024-05)

ATTACHMENT\_01\_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT\_02\_FILENAME

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Please reconsider the extent of the existing plan. This is important traditional lands and a sensitive ecosystem and you are extending too far into it.



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First name [required]                      Karla  
Last name [required]                      Williamson

How do you wish to attend?

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What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required]                      Council

Date of meeting [required]                      Jul 21, 2025

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

[required] - max 75 characters                      Aurora area structure plan

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]                      Neither

ATTACHMENT\_01\_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT\_02\_FILENAME

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Thank you for the opportunity to give feedback about the proposed Naato'siyinnipi (Aurora) Area Structure Plan.

I have used this area for personal recreation for 25 years. In the summer, I am out on the pathway system weekly. I've taken our girl guide units there many times. We have run geocaching events there as well. My family enjoys the area on foot, coming to see the prairie crocuses in the spring. I've recently participated in the Jane's walk there last month; it made me appreciate the area even more.

I've also had the opportunity to bike further upstream along the Creek, seeing the Country Hills golf course, Creekside shopping centre, and now Sage Hill that sits right along West Nose Creek. I will say they are all very close to the creek.

This proposed ASP covers a section of West Nose Creek that is mostly undeveloped up until now. But I do realize it is in city limits, and development is what happens as a city grows. But I feel that we do have an opportunity to try and save some of the wildness of this space with this proposed ASP, before development begins.

I really like how what's proposed is a mix of residential, transit, green space. It's not just industrial/commercial use. It is truly a multi use site. I really like how it will tie in to the future Green Line along Harvest Hills Blvd.

What I am still concerned about is how close the residential development gets to West Nose Creek on the southwest side of the development. (map 5 land use concept). Yes development limited to the top of the ridge, but it seems like the overall riparian setback is very small here. The ASP talks about "enhance the biodiversity and habitat connectivity...by retaining environmentally significant areas..."

I feel that building so close to the creek area will destroy habitat connectivity and increase fragmentation. In section 5.4.1 it says there should be an 18m building setback from the top of slope for all slopes greater than 15%. This seems too close. I read that St Albert has a 50m setback from Carrot Creek. Perhaps this would serve well here? Or more?

I also feel like this proposed ASP doesn't really identify where the historical resources actually are so they can be protected. Hopefully they can be identified before development begins.

I do hope we can conserve more of West Nose Creek ecology by having a larger riparian setback. And I do hope the City works closely with Indigenous Elders to identify important cultural and historic resources in the area.



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First name [required] Kristina

Last name [required] Stephens

How do you wish to attend?

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What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required] Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning

Date of meeting [required] Jul 21, 2025

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

[required] - max 75 characters Naato’siyinnipi (Aurora) Area Structure Plan

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required] In opposition

ATTACHMENT\_01\_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT\_02\_FILENAME

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am opposed to the extent of the development in the most recent published Naa-to'siyinnipi (Aurora) Area Structure Plan and believe it needs further investigation and consideration.

With this area being of significant importance to the Blackfoot Confederacy and the city's historic desecration of a significant site, I believe further investigation needs to be done as to the protection of these areas, and how we can educate the public on the historic uses of this land and respect that history. I am not opposed to the development, but rather the extent of its reaches. The current plan does not add significant green spaces outside of the already existing Confluence park, and destroys critical grassland habitat that is quickly dwindling in this city. It is one of only two nesting sites for the Western Meadowlark in Calgary in addition to other prairie species, including garter snakes and bank swallows. I do not agree with the development beyond the southern main (green) road, including the environmental investigation area, and believe this should instead be protected as a natural green space with a focus on grassland habitat restoration and added as an extension to Confluence park. The north has very few natural green spaces for the communities to enjoy, and with the influx of more people, this space is getting fewer and far between.

This area would also benefit by creating a more connected park network with Confluence Park (including the dog park) and the neighboring Nose Creek Watershed. A north to South bike path the follows Nose Creek to the Bow River pathway would allow Calgarians greener options, such as biking and walking, to access amenities, get to work, and enjoy the natural green spaces. Currently, it is challenging to travel between neighborhoods in the NE along the west side of Deerfoot.

Additionally, there has been very little thought put into how adding these additional residents to the area would put pressure on the neighboring elementary schools, and there is very limited access to the neighboring communities. As the green line has been delayed, there is little connectivity between Aurora and the rest of the city.



## Public Submission

CC 968 (R2024-05)

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First name [required]                      Andrew

Last name [required]                      Yule

How do you wish to attend?              In-person

You may bring a support person should you require language or translator services. Do you plan on bringing a support person?

What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required]              Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure and Planning

Date of meeting [required]                      Jul 21, 2025

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).)

[required] - max 75 characters              Naato'siyinnipi (Aurora) Area Structure Plan PHASE 4

Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]              In opposition



## Public Submission

CC 968 (R2024-05)

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ATTACHMENT\_01\_FILENAME

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ATTACHMENT\_02\_FILENAME

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Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I will email my official submission - too large for this portal

## RE: Naato'siyinnipi (Aurora) Area Structure Plan PHASE 4: OPPOSED

This is my personal submission for the Infrastructure and Planning Committee in OPPOSITION to the Naato'siyinnipi (Aurora) Area Structure Plan . I am writing on behalf of myself as a citizen of North Central Calgary. I have stepped down from my position as President of the Nose Creek Preservation Society in order to run for City Council in Ward 3 in October. However, the Nose Creek Watershed continues to be near and dear to my heart, which is why I am personally writing to you today.

**I am opposed to this plan, as it is presented in this Final Draft** and think it needs to go back to administration to be cut down in scale based on what I have learned about these lands..

I have advocated in front of Council for lands adjacent to Nose Creek and West Nose Creek time and time again over the last 3 years. Every time Council has told me that there isn't much they can do because the lands were privately owned. **The Naato'siyinnipi (Aurora) lands are city owned lands** and are used by many residents in this area as their only naturalized "park" lands for the Northern Hills, much of Beddington Heights and Sandstone Valley.

**I am not against development on these lands, however I am opposed to the extent of this development and how rushed these discussions feel.**

### Historical Significance

First, the historical element is my biggest concern, these lands are considered a Spiritual Site by many in the Blackfoot Confederacy. A site that they would return to season after season for their Sundance traditions. Different from the Bison Processing location further north along the Nose Creek mainstem.

In 2001 City Council had to issue a formal apology for the desecration of sites when developing 96th Ave and the Harvest Hills Crossing Commercial Area. Let's not make the same mistakes we did back then and ensure we protect these spiritual sites.

NATIVE CEREMONIAL SITE

## City scrambles to rebuild peace

Aldermen want answers to desecration

SUZANNE WILTON  
CALGARY HERALD

A special native ceremony will be held early next year to bring peace to a sensitive archeological site plowed over to make way for a business park.

This fall's "desecration" of teepee rings, native cairns and medicine wheels has angered both the aboriginal community and city aldermen who are demanding answers on what happened.

The site is located just north of Beddington Trail N.E. near Nose Creek. It will be the future home of the Aurora Business Park, a joint-venture development between the city

and the private sector.

Members of the Blackfoot Confederacy were outraged when the prehistoric ceremonial site — which could date back more than 2,000

years — was destroyed.

"It was almost like a death in my family. These things are held close to my heart," said Edwin Small Legs, a tribal councillor with the Peigan Nation. "Those things are very sacred to the native people."


Ald. Bob Hawkesworth said Wednesday he wants to know why a publicly owned piece of land that city council had asked its staff to protect was instead plowed up.

"You ask for a site to be secured and you expect it to be secured," he said.

Hawkesworth wonders whether bureaucratic red tape or bungling was to blame.

The corporate properties department, which handles land deals for the city, went ahead with the development after receiving approval in August from Alberta Community Development, the provincial portfolio responsible for heritage and cultural affairs.

SEE BLACKFOOT, PAGE B2



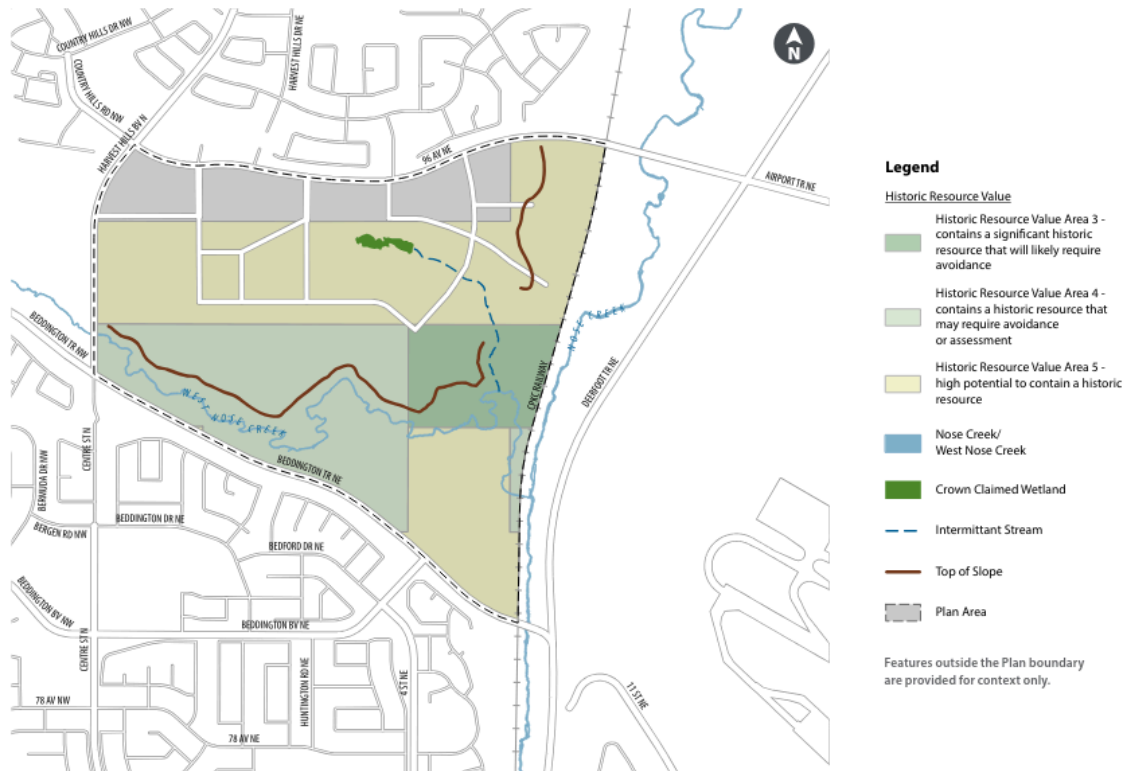
Site of prehistoric teepee rings, native cairns and medicine wheels dating back more than 2,000 years.

Country Hills Golf Course  
Harvest Hills Blvd  
Harvest Hills Business Park  
West Nose Creek Park  
Beddington Tr  
Beddington Blvd.

Calgary Herald Graphic

Based on the plan's own map, we see that you can throw a shovel in any direction and you're likely to hit a historical resource. I feel that it's important that we listen to the voices of the First Nations in regards to this land. The risk feels too high to rush this planning before we have a clear dialogue with the First Nations before making these plans firm.

Map 3: Areas of Historic and Potential Historic Resources



PROPOSED Naato'siyinnipi Area Structure Plan 13

### No Longer Transit Oriented Development

Next, this site was supposed to be Transit Oriented development. It was to be aligned with the Green Line. However, recent events have thrown the design of the North Leg of the Green Line into question. This area's transit is already over capacity since 2016 the #301 and the #3 account for 40% of bus overloads and the density planned for Livingston and Carrington were Green Line dependent. With the rapid growth north of Stoney Trail and the Centre Street transit corridor over capacity, adding 16,543 more residents here feels irresponsible.

### Schools

They added a High School site but will expect the elementary students to commute? With no elementary school planned in this ASP you will have elementary school students crossing six lanes of traffic to get to their designated schools either in Country Hills or Harvest. This has always been the issue here in North Central Calgary. Without adequate transit everyone

has to drive and this isolates and silos our communities by massive mini-highways that have claimed lives.

Also, putting a High School right next to a sensitive wetland like West Nose Creek feels like a bad idea. As much as high schools do their best to manage litter, they always have a higher amount in and around their grounds. Also the youthful shenanigans in close proximity to natural monuments like Split Rock is a risk as well.

### Biodiversity & Green Space

I am also concerned about the biodiversity in this area. In talking with Nature Calgary these lands are only one of 2 locations where the Western Meadowlark nest in Calgary. The other being Ralph Klein Park in the South. There will be a temptation to increase the tree canopy in this area as they develop, however trees do scare away grassland nesting birds, as they are a perch for predatory birds.

Founding the Nose Creek Preservation Society has opened my eyes to the need to keep this area preserved for the numerous native plants, birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals that make Aurora their home. As a society, the NCPS has come across threatened species like the Bank Swallows and protected snake nesting grounds that should give everyone on this project a moment of pause.

Beavers are another great concern of mine. In Coventry Hills we were disheartened by the city having to terminate 2 beavers due to them interfering with city infrastructure. Developing in this area will have inevitable beaver human conflict. We have a few beavers that make their home in this area and do not want them to be terminated as a result of interfering with infrastructure in this area.

At the public engagement the city administration was touting that this development would create 37% green space. I find this percentage to be a bit disingenuous. I believe they are including the "West Nose Creek Park" (Formerly Confluence Park) in this percentage; a park that has already been created since 2002. I would argue that they are only actually creating 7% green space that was not technically a park already. Whatever the percentage, it will still feel like a net-loss of green space to the surrounding communities who use this area for their personal nature therapy.

### Watershed

The original Industrial Commercial Plan in 2007/08 did a water study that caused greater attention to Water Collection and Recycling for warehouses and facilities proposed in this area. Pushing this to a residential area so close to this watershed will risk having less landowner responsibility regarding the protection of the watershed. Nose Creek is still recovering from being one of the most polluted creeks in Alberta. We need to make sure that we are doing everything to protect this vital water habitat.

## Airport Contours

Yes, the contours have been reduced, which allows for more residential in this area. However, I do know of 2 plane crashes in the Nose Creek Valley due to the proximity to the airport. The most recent one was in the The Naato'siyinnipi (Aurora) area in 1980, due to the alignment with the runway, this plane crashed in the valley before landing.

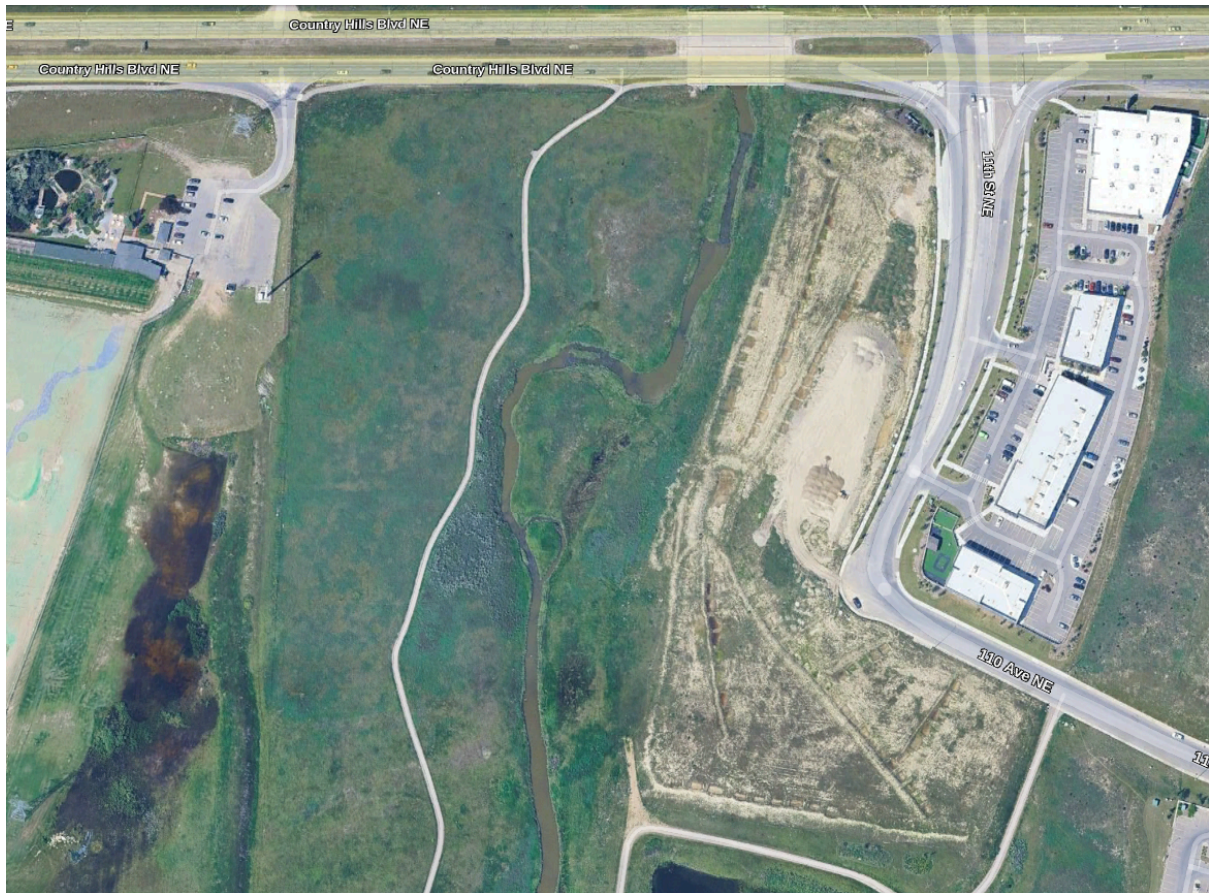


However, I think what would concern me most about the proximity to the airport are the glycol ponds. In the spring they send a smell down into this valley that is quite rancid. If we are planning residential in this Valley, you can guarantee those residents are not going to be happy with that smell every year and since I started the Nose Creek Preservation Society in 2022, I've noticed the smell every spring in this area. While the Airport is working on this issue, it does cause "gas leak" 911 calls almost every spring.



However, **IF development moves forward the city MUST explore land swapping these developable areas with the environmentally sensitive, privately-owned land in the Stoney Industrial ASP. (Northeast of Aurora)**

As established at previous meetings the development happening along the Nose Creek Mainstem is too close to Nose Creek based on today's scientifically determined setbacks. If the City is going to develop in Aurora, it could lose zero green space, if it strategically swaps lands that are more suitable for development with lands that are environmentally sensitive. Like the Melcor Lands 12m from Nose Creek South of Country Hills Blvd.



Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to reach out to me if you need more clarification.

Thank You,  
**Andrew Yule - Long time North Central Calgary Resident**

[Redacted] | [AndrewYule.ca](http://AndrewYule.ca)

Ward 3 sits on the Confluence of Nose Creek and West Nose Creek, a place of significance to Indigenous Peoples. It's an honour to live, work and adventure on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations (including Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations), the Métis Nation (District 5 & 6), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.