

NOV 26 2018

ITEM:

C2018-1158

Distribution

CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

Flyover Park

Good afternoon your worship and members of Council.

I'm Deb Lee, a 21 year resident of Bridgeland and Member of the Bridgeland-Riverside Board of Directors.

I'm here today to present a project we have been working since 2016 to tackle a challenging area in our community. Many of you will know the 4th Avenue Flyover as a means to get from the north side of the Bow river and into downtown. However many will not realize our community lies underneath. At ground level the underpass is our gateway between Bridgeland-Riverside and downtown.

For many years now this area has been described as unsafe by many in our community. Constant graffiti, litter, drug paraphernalia and stolen goods have caused the community to wrestle with increases in social disorder year over year. Especially since Riverwalk and East Village were revitalized some issues have been pushed to this area.

We have only 3 ways to get into our community – 12th St NE which has now been improved through a great connection to Inglewood, the C-Train at 9th St and this Flyover at Edmonton Trail and Memorial Drive NE.

As we grow and densify - leftover transportation infrastructure can no longer be ignored. Cities around the world are reclaiming these sites and creating vibrant public spaces. We know now that Crime Prevention through Environmental Design can transform spaces into safe places for everyone from all walks of life to enjoy together.

It is our community's desire to improve this space and create a true gateway. You may recall we partnered Grade 6 students from Langevin School with U of C EVDS students and they created designs for Flyover Park. They presented their final design to Council and even won honorable mention at the Mayor's Urban Design Awards. This year the project earned national recognition with a Certificate of Merit from the National Urban Design Awards at the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.

Now we are working hard to make the designs a reality. We have partnered with Park Foundation Calgary – as they have a long record building

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successful public spaces in this City. Together we applied for a large CFEP grant from the Province but need matching funds to be successful.

Bridgeland-Riverside has no investment in public realm at this critical gateway compared to Memorial Drive NW in Kensington or East Village despite Memorial Drive recently being widened for vehicles to access downtown. This change further disconnecting Bridgeland from downtown.

We hope the City of Calgary can continue to support this project as a partner so we can leverage additional matching funding required to complete the project. We are also actively working on support from private partners as well, but it would really help to show the City is behind us.

Additionally the redevelopment of this space will attract critical reinvestment to the newly up-zoned Edmonton Trail Couplet area – which can support significant density increases and a business district.

We hope you can support us in your budget.

Current Site



Examples of social disorder, needles and unsafe/dangerous environment found under flyover.



Best Practice — Examples



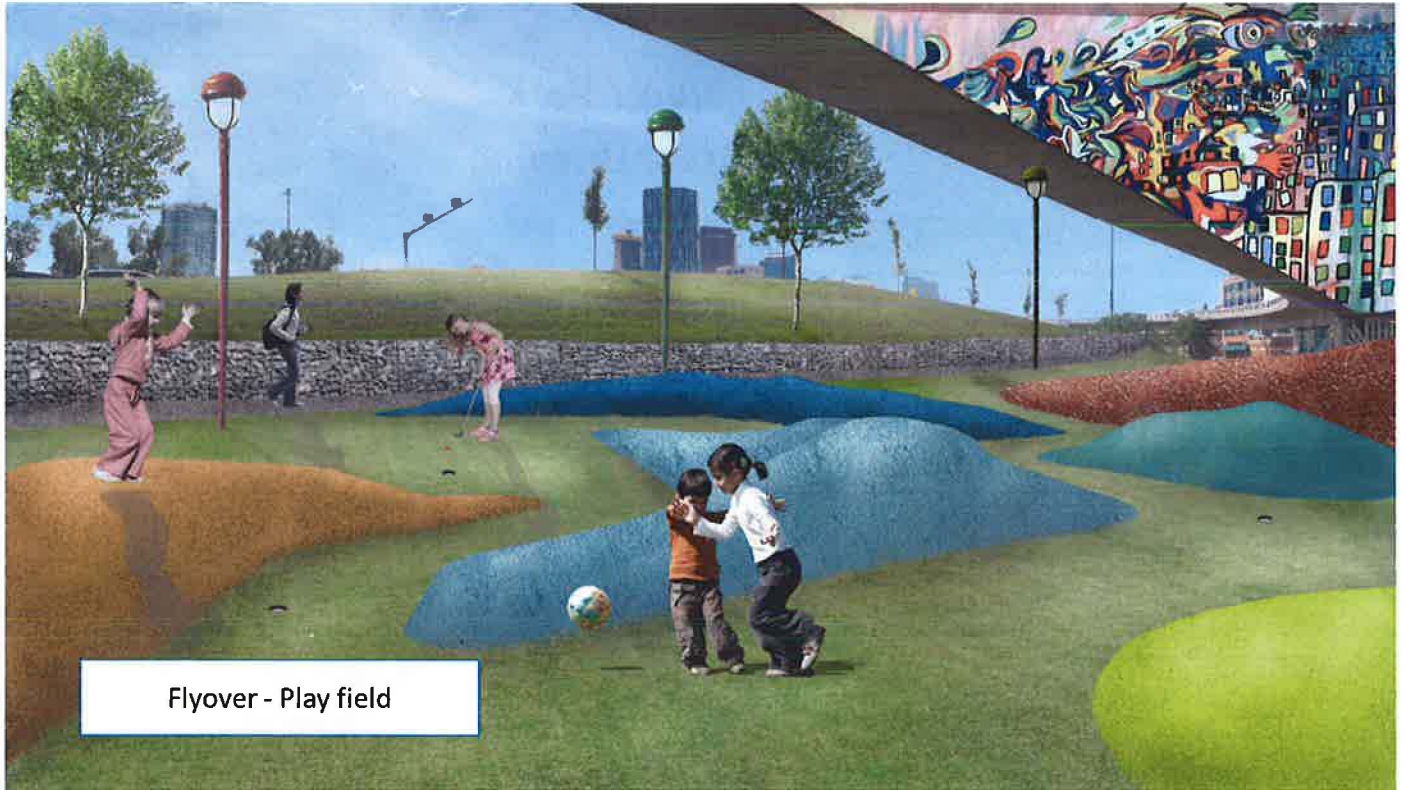
Lavender Field, Mainz, Germany



Praça Quinze, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Conceptual Drawings





Flyover - Play field



Flyover - Outdoor learning circle