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The Capitol Hill Community Association
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November 24, 2018

Mayor Naheed Nenshi
Office of the Mayor
The City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB, T2P 2M5

Councillor Druh Farrell
Ward 7 Councillor
The City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB, T2P 2M5

Sent via email to themayor@calgary.ca and druh.farrell@calgary.ca

Dear: Mayor Nenshi and Councilor Farrell

We are writing to you to provide you our input on the Proposed 2019-2022 Service Plans & Budget. It is our belief that while the city's plans to focus on enabling active transport and safe streets are laudable, we would like to ensure that investment in safe street amenities are directed to our community commensurate with the growing investment in housing development that we are welcoming.

Capitol Hill is an urban neighbourhood. We have been a leading community in supporting increased density in the inner core. We want to be a community that offers families, students and others the opportunity to live affordably in the inner core. We want to create a community that is liveable for everyone.

In the past four years, our community worked closely with the city to develop and implement our Area Redevelopment Plan; a plan that clearly shows our willingness to support density. Our community has been recognized as one that embraces density, rather than opposing it. We are prepared to work closely with the city as it looks to redevelop the inner city to ensure it is ready to welcome the growth in Calgary's population over the coming years.

That said, density doesn't just come from building more housing on a street. People will not move to a community that is not liveable or safe. What will bring people into the inner city are amenities such as green spaces, crosswalks, bike lanes and walkable commercial areas.

It is important that this budget considers bringing in the investments needed for to make this liveable neighbourhood and ensure that people will want to live in housing that is being encouraged in Capitol Hill. We need streets that are safer to walk on and across, and we need bicycle facilities that enable people of all ages and abilities to move efficiently through and across our community.

Capitol Hill is both bordered and transected by busy streets, which can make it challenging and hostile for walkers and cyclists to travel within and through our community. We are bordered by 16th Avenue N on the south, 20th Avenue N and 24th Avenue N on the north, 10th Street W on the east and 19th Street W on the west. In addition, our community is bisected by the 14th Street W thoroughfare. As council can see, traffic around and across our community is high, especially in the rush hour windows. In addition, cut through traffic and speeding is a problem in our neighbourhood. With SAIT and University of Calgary within walking distance of our communities, we have a lot of student traffic throughout searching for parking.

We encourage the city to take our community's needs for safe streets seriously. As we have worked with the city to welcome more density to our community, we need the city to work with us now on safe streets and improving walkability and bikeability. We need city investment to slow down traffic on our streets, and to add more visible and lit crosswalks. We need cycle tracks on the connector roads to enable travel from east to west across our communities, and to connect kids to their elementary school and middle school. We want families to feel comfortable walking and cycling around and across our community all year around.

With this, we believe that our community should be allocated sufficient capital investment and operating budgets from the **Sidewalks & Pathways** and **Streets** service areas to deliver on our needs for safe and accessible streets. To accomplish this increase in investment in our community, it may be necessary for the city to increase budgets in these service areas, which we encourage. To help with the budget allocation for our community, we offer the following as a list of key projects we are seeking immediate attention to the projects shown in the attached map, as listed here:

- Bicycle facilities including:
 - Cycle tracks on 20 Avenue N between 10 Street W and 19 Street W
 - Bike lanes on 24 Avenue N between 14 Street W and 19 Street W
- Crosswalks with Rapid Flashing Beacons at:
 - 10 Street W at 18 Avenue N
 - 14 Street W at 21 Avenue N
 - 20 Avenue N at 12 Street W
 - 24 Avenue N at 15 Street W
 - 24 Avenue N at 17 Street W
- Sidewalks added to:
 - South side of 22 Avenue N alongside school field (around 17 Street W)
 - Both sides of the streets for 16A, 17 and 17A Streets north of 25 Avenue N.

- Traffic Calming on 18th Avenue N between 10 Street W and 14 Street W, where there currently exists no stop signs.
- Complete closure of vehicular access to community at 11 Street W at 16 Avenue N (similar to that along 16 Avenue N at 13 Street W, 15 Street W, 17 Street W and 18 Street W).

We thank you for your attention to this important matter. The safety of pedestrians and cyclists of all ages and abilities in our community is of paramount importance to us. We look forward to working with the city to advance our vision of an inner city neighbourhood in Calgary that is liveable, affordable and safe.

Sincerely



Krista Phillips
Development and Planning Committee
Capitol Hill Community Association

cc: Jessica Lajoie, President, Capitol Hill Community Association
Cam Collingwood, Lead, Development and Planning Committee, Capitol Hill Community Association

Attachment: Capitol Hill Traffic Safety Issues – Nov 2018 Final.pdf