

**Transportation Report to
Combined Meeting of Council
2019 April 08**

**ISC: UNRESTRICTED
C2019-0406**

Supplementary Report to TT2019-0204

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council directed Administration to review interim uses of a number of parcels of City-owned land, designated for building light rail transit (LRT) projects in the future. On 2019 March 20, TT2019-0204 was presented to the SPC on Transportation and Transit to summarize Administration's process for evaluating potential interim uses along future Blue Line and Green Line LRT rights-of-way (ROW).

This supplemental report addresses a request for further context and examples to be included around interim uses to be heard at Council along with the original report.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

That the SPC on Transportation & Transit recommends that Council:

1. Receive this supplemental material to TT2019-0204 for information.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

The Standing Policy Committee on Transportation and Transit (SPC on T&T) approval of TT2019-0204 (2019 March 20) was amended to direct Administration to "return to the 2019 April 08 Combined Meeting of Council with a supplemental report that includes additional examples of potential sites."

BACKGROUND

On 2016 June 20, Council directed administration to serve approximately 15 per cent of weekday peak period CTrain passenger trips through park and ride as outlined in "A Review of Calgary Transit Park and Ride" (TT2016-0319). On 2017 July 24, Council mandated that similar targets be applied to all future park and ride and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) plans with the "Calgary Transit Park and Ride Review – Update" (TT2017-0547) report to Council.

Alignments have been established for each of the Blue Line and Green Line LRT, with rights-of-way being acquired along the corridors. These rights-of-way include a mix of long linear strips along the routes, larger parcels for future stations and park and ride lots, and small parcels that will be utilized during construction. These spaces are maintained by The City of Calgary and represent an opportunity to address some community needs in the interim.

TT2019-0204 provided the SPC on Transportation and Transit with an assessment of the potential for transportation and non-transportation uses of these spaces. This resulted in two recommendations for Council:

1. Direct Administration to include appropriate rapid transit expansion projects (per Attachment 1) for analysis in the upcoming RouteAhead Project Prioritization Report in Q3 of 2019;
2. Direct Administration to engage partners in potential pilot projects to test interim non-transportation uses of future transit rights-of-way and report back with findings no later than Q2 2021;

An additional recommendation was added during the committee meeting, requesting additional information on sites and potential projects evaluated in the course of this work.

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INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

The SPC on Transportation and Transit directed administration to share more examples of the identified parcels of land that were considered in the analysis of the Interim Alternative Uses of Blue and Green Line LRT ROW (TT2019-0204) report. In line with Administration's previous report to the SPC on T&T, Attachment 1 highlights parcels of land that were identified as having significant potential for interim use. The examples showcased in Attachment 1 do not provide a full inventory of land holdings associated with the future LRT expansion projects.

The SPC on T&T also directed Administration to showcase more hypothetical project examples for interim alternative uses to better display the range of activation possibilities for City-owned parcels of land. Administration has prepared Attachment 2: Possibilities – Additional Example to showcase alternative uses for Site 4: Country Hills TOD site.

Attachment 2 demonstrates a hypothetical phased approach for activating Site 4, located at Harvest Hills Boulevard and 96 Ave N. Site 4 has been purchased to fulfill the Council-approved park and ride policy and to provide for efficient bus operations, including a bus terminal, in the vicinity of the future Green Line LRT extension. The site could be available for interim use for a number of years, though a portion of the site may be required to facilitate construction of the LRT in this area.

The hypothetical project example in Attachment 2 shows an evolving group of partners contributing to activation of portions of the site as it transitions over an extended period into a fully realized transit oriented development site served by the future LRT extension.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

Not applicable.

Strategic Alignment

See TT2019-0204 for a discussion of strategic alignment for this work.

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

See TT2019-0204 for a discussion of the sustainability factors relevant to this work.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

See TT2019-0204.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

See TT2019-0204.

Risk Assessment

See TT2019-0204.

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REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

The two attachments provide additional context to the recommendations presented in TT2019-2024 and do not, in themselves, warrant additional recommendations.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Attachment 1: Parcels – Additional Example Sites
2. Attachment 2: Possibilities – Additional Example Project