





CHINATOWN

2019 April 19

The City of Calgary P.O. Box 2100 Station 'M' Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5 Attention: Councillor Shane Keating Chairperson – SPC Transportation & Transit

Re; SPC Transportation & Transit Meeting – April 24, 2019 Green Line LRT Public Gardens Scoping Report, TT2019-0429

Dear Councillor Keating and SPC Members

The Chinatown District Business Improvement Area (CDBIA) is a proud, committed supporter of the LRT on the Green Line as a vital mode of transportation to Calgary's unique and culturally-distinct 'Chinese-Asian' community. The BIA believes that LRT will be a lifeline especially for our commercial retail shops, food establishments, fast-food and restaurants, and cultural shop offerings. The city's Chinese, Asian and all Calgary residents often come to Chinatown to 'Live, Work, and Play' and with the ever-decreasing inventory and rising cost of vehicle parking, the LRT and transit will certainly become an essential mode of transportation.

Chinatown is looking forward to the proposed underground 2nd Avenue / 2nd Street SW station (ideally name the Chinatown Station to reflect this community's 109-year existence at this Centre City location) as the 'western gate' to Chinatown and this community. We hope the station name and characteristics reflects the 138 years of Chinese culture, heritage, history and contributions to the settling and growth of Calgary.

The proposed Cultural Plan and Local Area Plan yearns for a plethora of green space plant varieties and ecological amenities to support the visual beauty and vibrancy of Chinatown. The 2nd Avenue / 2nd Street LRT station is certainly part of 'greening' Chinatown. Other aspirations of Chinatown green space include the build out of the Sien Lok Park Master Plan (unfunded), the development of the Prince's Island wetlands (eastern edge within the Chinatown boundary) as an oriental garden, and indoor, ecological green space within new building development.

The CDBIA is a strong supporter of Green Line LRT Public Gardens particularly at the 2nd Avenue / 2nd Street station and we hope City Council supports this as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Grace Su, Chinatown BIA Chair

Terry Wong, Chinatown BIA Executive Director

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