



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
ALBERTA

April-3-2017

Office of the Minister  
Transportation  
320 Legislature Building  
10800 - 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB  
T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Mason:

I am writing you to request a meeting. Mine and neighboring constituencies have several health, safety and environmental issues that urgently need to be addressed.

Dave Rodney brought to your attention the gravel pits in both West Spring and Bridlewood. I would like to draw your attention to the West Springs gravel pit and your answer in QP, March 8, 2017 as follows:

*Mr. Speaker, I'll remind the hon. member that one of these gravel pits is in the constituency of the Member for Calgary-Bow, and she has organized a meeting with her constituents. We had officials there from Transportation to answer questions, and we're pleased to do the same thing for this member should he choose to undertake it.*

The constituents of Calgary-Bow would like you to know that MLA Drever did not arrange this meeting and is since been of no help. It was arranged by the concerned residents in her area. She was invited to attend and the residents explain to me that Ms. Drever did not know anything about the gravel pit. I am helping the Calgary-Bow and my affected Calgary-West residents on this matter since their concerns have not been addressed by either Transportation or the Member for Calgary-Bow.

On February 17, 2017 my office requested details on the application, the environmental impact assessment, air quality monitoring plan, and the community engagement plan for the West Spring gravel pit (attachment 1). We asked for them urgently from Mr. Rizwan Hussain and we have not received anything but an acknowledgement.

I am asking you, Minister, to help us obtain this information. I am also asking that the location of the gravel pit be moved well away from residents. It is simply too close to residents. The Southwest Calgary Ring Road, Gravel Pit and Haul Road information page shows 10 metres between the edge of the gravel pit and residential property (attachment 2). Both the location of the pit and practice of building a gravel pit and getting the health and safety aspects after construction starts is unacceptable.

I would like to now draw your attention to SW Ring Road near the community of Discovery Ridge. The Community Association of Discovery Ridge has tried to work with your department including its last letter dated February 17, 2017, which I have included a copy (attachment 3). High on the list of concerns for my constituents is safety and noise attenuation due to the road proximity to residence without a berm or a wall. Are you aware that there is no berm or noise attenuation planned on the east side of the community near Discovery Drive, Place and Heights SW? This is not acceptable. We would like Transportation to create new plans for this area immediately to address the safety and noise concerns.

I would like to draw your attention to the Elbow River crossing. Essentially, the bridge will act like a dam with a small opening for regular flow river water. Should the flow of water increase, the south side of my constituency will flood. I have included an information package put together by Jeff Brookman, BAsC (Geol. Eng.), MBA, who is more than qualified to make these observations (attachment 4). He also points out noncompliance with Bill 27 and the City of Calgary's amended Land Use Bylaw. We will be requesting a meeting with Chief Lee Crowchild, Tsuut'ina, to share our findings in the near future.

I would like to discuss these matters as soon as possible. Again, each one of these concerns have a high level of health, safety and environmental impacts. Please contact Terri Kembball, Legislative Coordinator (780-644-2520), to arrange a meeting on these urgent matters.

Sincerely,



Mike Ellis  
MLA Calgary-West