Alberta Transportation

Major Capital Projects Branch 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 803 Manning Road NE Calgary, Alberta T2E 7M8 Telephone, 403-297-5500 www.transportation alberta ca

March 18, 2014

Ms Jacquie Hansen-Sydenham President, Discovery Ridge Community Association PO Box 75023, Westhills RPO Calgary, AB T3H 3M1

Dear Ms. Hansen-Sydenham:

RE: WEST CALGARY RING ROAD PROJECT
ACCESS TO HIGHWAY 8 – CLOSURE OF 101 STREET SW

Further to the recent meeting between the City of Calgary Transportation Department and representatives of the Discovery Ridge Community Association. I was asked to contact you about the pending closure of the access to Highway 8 from the lands to the south of the highway at 101 Street SW.

Alberta Transportation has been in discussions for a number of years with both the City of Calgary and Rocky View County regarding the need to permanently close the existing accesses to Highway 8 on both the north and south sides of the highway at the time this highway is twinned. Removing at grade connections to high speed twinned roads is the standard that we are currently using as existing roadways are upgraded or new sections of the Calgary Ring Road are constructed.

With the recent release of the current Provincial Budget, Alberta Transportation is moving forward with our plans to extend Stoney Trail from the Trans-Canada Highway to Highway 8 and to upgrade Highway 8 from the intersection with Lott Creek Boulevard to east of the Glenmore Trail 69 Street intersection. This project will result in a divided freeway for the extension of Stoney Trail and the twining of Highway 8 from the west City of Calgary corporate limits to west of the existing Highway 8/Lott Creek Boulevard intersection. It will also include an interchange to replace the existing at grade signalized intersection at Glenmore Trail and 69 Street SW.

To provide access to the existing properties south of Highway 8, located west of the community of Discovery Ridge and east of the Elbow River, Alberta Transportation has requested that the City of Calgary permit permanent legal access from these lands to Discovery Ridge Boulevard SW. As well, Alberta Transportation will permit a gated emergency access from Discovery Ridge Boulevard and these lands to the upgraded Highway 8 generally at the location that the existing access to Highway 8 is located.

It is our understanding that both the City of Calgary and Rocky View County are supportive of this proposed solution for access to these lands for the existing development their support is based on the current use of the properties, and as such this link will provide access to the properties as they exist today.

## Ms Jacquie Hansen-Sydenham Page 2

At this time Alberta Transportation's current plans are to deliver this project using our Public Private Partnership delivery model. Subject to approval to proceed later this spring we would expect to see construction work begin in mid-2015 on this portion of the Calgary Ring Road Project. The extension of the work to the south, across the Tsuu T'ina lands will proceed when the land transfer for the lands to be acquired from the Tsuu T'ina has been approved by the Federal Government.

If you would like additional information about this project I would be pleased to meet with you or you may contact me at your convenience if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Garry Lamb, P.Eng.

**Urban Construction Manager** 

cc: Ben Lee, Chair - Ring Road Committee, Discovery Ridge Community Association J. Radke. P. Eng., Manager, SWRR Integration Project, City of Calgary