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Garry Lamb  
Urban Construction Manager  
Alberta Transportation  
Major Capital Projects Branch  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 803 Manning Road NE  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2E 7M8

Dear Mr. Lamb:

**RE: WEST CALGARY RING ROAD PROJECT  
ACCESS TO HIGHWAY 8 – CLOSURE OF 101 STREET SW &  
COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

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On behalf of the Discovery Ridge Community Association (DRCA) Board, please accept our appreciation for your letter dated March 18, 2014 with regard to the above noted project.

This letter serves as our formal response to the request outlined in the aforementioned letter. It is our hope that this letter will also serve as the catalyst for active dialogue and consultation with our community regarding the detailed design and construction of the segment of the West Calgary Ring Road that abuts our community and is currently being mobilized. The DRCA is endeavouring to establish a working relationship with the Province in reaching a sustainable design solution that considers the economic, environmental and social impacts that this portion of the project will have on our community.

Firstly, please accept our conditional support for the Province's request to the City to provide permanent legal access to the existing acreage properties to the west of our community, currently within Rocky View County. We acknowledge the challenges of maintaining the existing access from the new freeway given the safety performance objectives. We also acknowledge that, given the physical and environmental restrictions to connect to the west through Rocky View County, the most logical alternative access is through our community. As such, our community is supportive of this proposal with the following provisos:

- This access is to be only provided to the existing acreages as they exist today, as noted in your letter, or as long as they remain in a similar form of country residential use and intensity;

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Westhills RPO Calgary, AB T3H 3M1**

# DISCOVERY RIDGE

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- The extension of Discovery Ridge Boulevard will not connect to Rocky View County lands further west across the Elbow River, nor facilitate another Elbow River crossing through a Floodway;
- A gated emergency access to the upgraded Highway 8 from the proposed extension to Discovery Ridge Boulevard be maintained near the location of the existing access;
- Construction traffic for the extension of Discovery Ridge Boulevard be directed through the existing access to Highway 8, as much as reasonably possible;
- As these homes sit within the floodway, we trust that both the Province and the City consider these homesteads as “grandfathered” uses given the recent flooding events and the potential provincial and City policy changes, and will not support any further development beyond these homesteads;
- Any proposals for greater intensification accompanied by alterations to the floodway be seriously discouraged due to the potential upstream and downstream impacts to the floodway. These impacts may have cascade effects on existing development within Rocky View County and the City of Calgary;
- No further subdivision of these lands be permitted;
- If the City considers annexation of these lands from Rocky View County, that the City assigns the lands as part of the Discovery Ridge Community, and supports adding these lands into the New Discovery Home Owners Association; and
- Our community is kept informed of all activities and key dates associated with the upgrades and construction of the West Calgary Ring Road adjacent to our community. We would request that a construction phasing plan be provided to the DRCA when available.

We trust that these provisos are reasonable and that they illustrate DRCA’s concerns associated with the proposed request for legal access through the City and the community of Discovery Ridge. The DRCA supports the proposed alternative access to the acreages as they exist today. However, the DRCA wants to emphasize that this does not reflect an endorsement for redevelopment proposals of any kind on these lands and that any proposals will be subject to detailed engineering study and severe scrutiny by the DRCA, the City of Calgary, and the Province.

Secondly, please accept this letter as our request to be a valued stakeholder for the design and construction of the West Calgary Ring Road within the Public Private Partnership (P3) delivery model. Our community has established a Ring Road Committee whose mandate is to be fully engaged with the Province on this P3 initiative. Throughout this process, the DRCA is committed to be a reasonable and professional partner, and has assembled key members with technical knowledge that can contribute sensibly to the anticipated discussions and design details.

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# DISCOVERY RIDGE

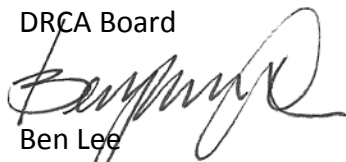
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The DRCA Ring Road Committee will be seeking specific details and/or input on several key elements, such as and not limited to:

- An Engagement and Communication Plan;
- Construction Management Plan
- Timing, Critical Path and Scheduling;
- Roadway Design/Alignment (grading, cut/fill, and roadway elevations);
- 69<sup>th</sup> Street SW Interchange Design;
- Cross-sections (road profiles along the entire stretch of freeway abutting our community);
- Directional Lighting Design (Dark Sky Principle);
- Landscaping/Berming and Sound Attenuation;
- Upgrades to the existing sound fence;
- Integrating Trail Systems;
- Potential to shift the TransAlta line within Griffiths Woods into the TUC;
- Storm Water Management;
- Environmental Impacts mitigation (conservation, wildlife corridors, etc.);

We trust that the Province and the City of Calgary recognize our significant interest in how this portion of the West Calgary Ring Road is deployed over the next number of years. We are, therefore, looking forward to meeting with you within the next couple of weeks to establish a reasonable protocol for engagement and collaboration moving forward. Our community is committed to working with the Province in establishing a sustainable planning process intended on creating an outcome that is very mindful of the fiscal, social and environmental balance that needs to be achieved in an efficient and timely manner. We trust that the Province is also committed to a similar outcome.

Regards,  
DRCA Board



Ben Lee  
Chair, Ring Road Committee  
blee@ibigroup.com

cc: Jacquie Hansen-Sydenham, President, DRCA  
DRCA Ring Road Committee  
Richard Pootmans, Ward 6 Councillor  
Julie Radke, Manager, SWRR Integration Project, City of Calgary  
Ken Hughes, MLA, Calgary-West

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