

January 4, 2001

Alderman Linda Fox-Mellway

### Computer Traffic Modelling

WHEREAS serious traffic problems are occurring in the communities adjacent to Macleod Trail, south of Fish Creek Park; and

WHEREAS these areas, including residential and commercial, were analyzed by The City's computer model; and

WHEREAS the computer traffic model has indicated that these developments would work; and

WHEREAS experience has indicated that this area is not working, often experiencing gridlock conditions, although the area has not even been fully built to the level that the model indicated would work; and

WHEREAS the model does not appear to provide analysis on the cumulative downstream effects of additional development on traffic congestion and flow; and

WHEREAS a previous motion requesting a report on the cumulative effects of additional development on traffic congestion and flow has never been responded to by the Administration in a satisfactory manner that can be communicated to the public; and

WHEREAS enhanced resources, including better tools for predicting the impact on developments, are required to improve communication between Council, the business units, the development industry and the public; and

WHEREAS better information is required on the cumulative effects of development on the overall transportation network for The City of Calgary, including trucking movements; and

WHEREAS through my research with the University of Calgary, I have been made aware that The City of Dublin, Ireland, with approximately 1 million population, exclusively uses a computer modelling system for their approximately 600 intersections that has provided options to expensive interchange solutions. A second example is Edinburgh, Scotland, as noted in a study "Edinburgh City Centre, A Microsimulation Case Study"; and

WHEREAS this computer modelling system, PARAMICS, MICRO-SIMULATION, represents 14 years of development through a collaborative effort with business partners, and has attracted several awards from UK, European and US bodies; and

WHEREAS the graphical nature of the ECCPM, particularly the fact that it can visualise at driver's eye view in 3D, has proved valuable in assessing the sometimes controversial traffic management measures. Interactive demonstrations of the model to elected council members, the police and the bus operators has opened the modelling procedures up to public scrutiny, lending further confidence and credence to the council officials' recommendations. The result, for a subject matter that has historically provided protracted and lengthy debates, has been an unusually smooth passage for difficult proposals through council procedures;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Administration be requested to bring forward a report with a study outline on how these issues may be addressed, to assist developers and The City in determining how their proposals will fit into the existing and short-term planned growth and bring an interim report to Council through the S.P.C. on Transportation, Transit and Parking, including costs, by 2001 March and/or before budget finalization.

MOTION CARRIED