

# Rocky Ridge Road

## Update from The City of Calgary



**March 31, 2009**

The City of Calgary has initiated a road closure application for consideration by City Council. The application was approved at the Calgary Planning Commission (CPC) on January 22, and presented to Council on March 9, 2009. After presentations from both Administration and representatives from the communities of Royal Oak and Rocky Ridge, Council gave the following direction:

*That the following Bylaws [road closure and land use amendment] be tabled in order that further discussions can occur between the Province of Alberta and Administration regarding alternative solutions for Rocky Ridge Road and Crowchild Trail N.W. with a report to return to Council no later than 2009 April 27.*

A Rocky Ridge Road committee, made up of representatives from the communities of Royal Oak and Rocky Ridge, Transportation Infrastructure, and the Ward Alderman, has been meeting regularly since November 2008 to discuss the proposed closure and potential community traffic issues. In fall 2008, a traffic analysis was conducted, and several intersection improvements were identified and proposed throughout the communities to reduce the impact of the closure. The committee has acted as a conduit of information, providing The City with feedback on the proposed intersection improvements, bringing forward issues and concerns, and facilitating two-way communication between community members and The City.

Since the Province approved the Crowchild Trail/Stoney Trail interchange for construction, numerous alternatives to closing Rocky Ridge Road have been considered. A practical alternative must meet the technical design requirements for safety, be economically feasible, and address the access goals of the community. Despite The City and the Province spending much of 2006 investigating possibilities, none were found to meet these criteria.

Transportation Infrastructure is now preparing to meet with the Province to fulfill Council's request, and is also scheduled to meet with the Rocky Ridge Road Closure Community Committee (R3C3) group to discuss their concerns and suggestions.

The City has taken steps to mitigate the impacts of the closure, such as constructing a temporary emergency access at 107 Street, and commits to implementing all of the proposed intersection improvements prior to the road closure.

For more information on the Rocky Ridge Road closure or the proposed intersection improvements, please visit [www.calgary.ca/ti](http://www.calgary.ca/ti).

# Rocky Ridge Road

## Joint Update from The City of Calgary and R3C3



**April 13, 2009**

On April 2, 2009, representatives from the Rocky Ridge Road Closure Community Committee (R3C3), The City of Calgary, and Alberta Transportation met to discuss the technical challenges associated with maintaining access at Rocky Ridge Road, and the proposed alternatives put forward by the R3C3 group. The objective of the meeting was to develop a common understanding among all participants about the impacts of all possible outcomes.

Prior to meeting with R3C3, The City of Calgary also met with Provincial representatives to review possible alternatives to the road closure, as was directed by Council at the public hearing on March 9, 2009.

In 2005, Alberta Transportation carried out a functional study to identify an interchange design that would allow Rocky Ridge Road to remain open. An alternative was identified, but due to considerable cost (an estimated \$100 million more than the current design) and significant impact to the future LRT, the option was not pursued further.

This functional study was revisited as part of this process, and presented to the R3C3 group. Although this design is technically feasible, all parties agree it is too costly both economically and socially, from the resulting impact to the LRT.

R3C3 proposed nine possible alternatives to maintain access at Rocky Ridge Road. The City and Alberta Transportation analyzed all of the proposals by first identifying common design elements among them. For example, an under/overpass from westbound Crowchild Trail to Rocky Ridge Road was included in all nine proposals. Six design elements were identified and reviewed:

- “Tight” cloverleaf design for the Crowchild Trail/Stoney Trail interchange (reducing the space required for the interchange to allow an access at Rocky Ridge Road)
- Overpass from southbound Rocky Ridge Road to eastbound Crowchild Trail
- Underpass or overpass from westbound Crowchild Trail to northbound Rocky Ridge Road (grade-separated from the southbound Stoney Trail to westbound Crowchild Trail ramp)
- Ramp from southbound Stoney Trail to Rocky Ridge Road
- Right-out from southbound Rocky Ridge Road to westbound Crowchild Trail
- Overpass from southbound Rocky Ridge Road to southbound Stoney Trail

Each of the proposed design changes were reviewed based on feasibility and design standards. A practical alternative must meet the technical design requirements for safety,

be economically feasible, and address the access goals of the community. The review identified significant issues, while focusing first on technical feasibility. The following table outlines the results of the review.

Design change	Impacts				
	Sub-standard (merge taper, grade, design speed, weaving distance)	Community (acreages, NW Family Church, condos)	LRT	Limited volumes	Significant cost
“Tight” cloverleaf	√		√		
Overpass to eastbound Crowchild Trail	√	√	√		√
Over/underpass from westbound Crowchild Trail	√	√			√
Ramp from southbound Stoney Trail	√			√	
Right-out to westbound Crowchild Trail	√	√	√	√	
Overpass to southbound Stoney Trail		√	√	√	√

A viable solution to maintain access was not identified in the meeting, and no additional options were proposed for further investigation. R3C3 has agreed to review the reference material provided at the meeting, which details the analysis, and contact The City with any further questions or additional proposals. The City and the Province will review proposals and address questions as they are received. Another meeting will be scheduled if necessary.

For more information on the Rocky Ridge Road closure or the proposed intersection improvements, please visit [calgary.ca/ti](http://calgary.ca/ti). For more information on the R3C3 group please visit [r3c3.blogspot.com](http://r3c3.blogspot.com).