

The logo for the City of Calgary, featuring the word "Calgary" in white, bold, sans-serif font on a red rectangular background.

**Calgary**



**John Laurie Boulevard  
Information Sessions**  
*What we heard report*

October 2022

## Project summary

In August 2022, The City of Calgary held information session to inform citizens of upcoming traffic control changes on John Laurie Boulevard between Brisebois Drive N.W. and 19 Street N.W. These traffic control changes along John Laurie Boulevard N.W. are being installed with the goal to reduce collisions and improve safety at these three intersections.

These changes include:

- **Charleswood Drive N.W.** – A signalized intersection at Charleswood Drive N.W. and John Laurie Boulevard N.W.
- **19 Street N.W.** – Prohibit left turns from northbound 19 Street N.W. to John Laurie Boulevard during the morning and afternoon peak periods on weekdays
- **Brisebois Drive N.W.** – Prohibit left turns onto John Laurie Boulevard and through movements crossing John Laurie Boulevard from both Brisebois Drive N.W. and the Nose Hill parking lot on the north side during the morning and afternoon peak periods on weekdays

The City has collected and analyzed traffic and collision data for over a decade along this stretch of road. We found that all three intersections have a high number of collisions, including injury collisions.

Most concerning was the data for the intersection at John Laurie Boulevard and Charleswood Drive which showed that 21% of the collisions at the intersection resulted in injuries. This is more than double the city average of 10% at other intersections.

Through this project, The City has used Calgary.ca/JLB to connect with citizens on changes within their communities. Information was shared on this webpage and with local area Councillors and community associations.

## Information Sessions

The City held two in-person information sessions in August 2022, which provided citizens with information on the project and gave an opportunity to provide feedback to City staff. A 311 SR was also added to the Calgary.ca/JLB webpage to collect data on the project.

Our information session focused on three areas:

- Identifying the areas where traffic patterns would be changing and sharing that information with citizens,
- Providing traffic data to support the decision that was made to implement these changes, and
- Allowing citizens the opportunity to voice their concerns and ask questions directly to the project team.

## What we heard

Overall, the feedback from the information sessions, both in person and online, was *mixed*. Some citizens felt that these changes will have too much of an impact on John Laurie Boulevard and the adjacent communities while others felt the changes were needed but may not go far enough (i.e. more lights needed on JLB).

We had over 100 comments from citizens submitted either at the Information sessions, or through the 311 SR. Below are some of the common themes we heard during the sessions and from the feedback received.

- **Concern about traffic flow along John Laurie Boulevard** – perhaps the most common concern, unsurprisingly, was the impact to John Laurie Boulevard and traffic flow.
- **Increased traffic and congestion on Charleswood Drive** – many citizens, particularly those who lived close to Charleswood Drive raised concerns about increased traffic and congestion. Concerns included:
  - Increased traffic volume on Charleswood Drive, especially during peak hours when people will use Charleswood to turn westbound onto JLB.

- Increased congestion,
  - Increased difficulty turning left onto Charleswood Drive between John Laurie Boulevard and Crowchild Trail, and
  - Increased vehicle noise on Charleswood drive, including requests to improve sound attenuation barriers along this section.
- **Left hand turn restrictions on Brisebois Dr, Charleswood Dr and 19 Street NW** – many wanted to first see permanent left-turn restrictions on the three roadways where traffic controls are being installed.
  - **Snow and Ice Control at Charleswood Drive NW** – Concerns about icing/SNIC at Charleswood Drive with start/stopping due to traffic light.
  - **Idling, increased emissions, City’s Climate Strategy** – Concern from citizens regarding idling at traffic light.
  - **Desire for traffic signals at all intersections** – Some citizens welcomed the signals, and desired to see them installed at Brisebois/19 Street NW as well.
  - **Desire for a U-Turn on Charleswood Drive** – Some residents who live along Charleswood Drive requested a U-Turn so they could access their homes on the west side.
  - **Pedestrian safety** – Concerns about pedestrian safety at various locations around the project area. Requests for pedestrian crosswalks, signals, and other traffic control devices to improve safety. Several mentions of schools in the area and safety for children.
  - **Speeding in the area** – There were numerous concerns raised by residents of the area about traffic speeding through their communities.
  - **Trucks using Charleswood Drive** – some concerns about truck traffic improperly using Charleswood Drive as a cut-through to get to John Laurie. Concerns this will increase with traffic control installation.
  - **Merge lanes on JLB** – Suggestions on merge lanes on JLB for traffic turning westbound from Charleswood/Brisebois/19 St.
  - **Access to Nose Hill** – concerns both for and against regarding access to Nose Hill, with some expecting more people to begin crossing at the Charleswood intersection (detrimental to natural area) and other wanting to see more pedestrian access points added to the park.