

As part of the Government of Alberta's \$34.8-billion Capital Plan, more than \$7 billion will be invested in the provincial highway network. This includes completing the full 101 kilometers of the Calgary Ring Road, a critical investment for Calgarians that will provide long-term safe and efficient movement of goods and people and improved market access across Calgary and the country.

Some of the Southwest Calgary Ring Road project and its activities occur close to residential neighborhoods.

On Saturday February 4, MLA Deborah Drever of Calgary Bow, Garry Lamb representing Alberta Transportation, and Councilor Richard Pootmans of Ward 6 presented an information session to the community about this project.

We recognize that active construction is disruptive, but this project will create much needed jobs in Calgary over its four-year duration, and, once complete, will reduce congestion and enhance the efficient movement of goods and people around Calgary.

### **Some of the key facts about the aggregate (gravel) quarry in the transportation utility corridor (TUC) along 101st street:**

- As part of Southwest Calgary Ring Road project, the province will be developing two gravel operations near the project site.
- Gravel is a costly, non-renewable resource and access to these gravel sources should reduce costs for both the Southwest Calgary Ring Road and the future West Calgary Ring Road.
- The West Calgary Ring Road project area contains over five million cubic meters of gravel, which will be used for the construction of the Southwest Calgary Ring Road.

In addition, removing the gravel now to construct the southwest portion of the ring road will lower the road profile for the future West Calgary Ring Road, improving sightlines and further minimizing traffic noise, as well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and creating a safer and more efficient highway.

### **What is happening next?**

- Work to clear the gravel pit site should begin in the next few weeks, with extraction and on-site crushing starting in March 2017.

### **What about the Noise and Dust?**

- Alberta Transportation is committed to minimizing the impacts of these sites on adjacent communities.
- Dust and noise will be monitored and mitigation measures put in place as required. Mitigation measures will include water trucks and the seeding of stockpiled earth to prevent erosion.
- Hours of work will be limited to 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday and holidays
- An earth berm will be constructed between the gravel extraction area and adjacent residences to minimize noise levels and dust impacts. Noise levels are also expected to fall as the gravel pit deepens.

In response to the concerns raised at the previous community consultation, MLA Drever was pleased to share that the berm will now be 4 meters tall and 20 meters wide in an effort to further protect the

community from noise and dust concerns. In addition, a 10-metre wide vegetation buffer will be left between the berm and community.

MLA Deborah Drever has heard the requests of community members to review the opportunity to have trees planted within the 10 meter vegetation buffer to further assist with concerns of noise and dust control. MLA Drever will continue to advocate for this request to Alberta Transportation.

- A low-noise/low-dust crusher will be used on the site. The crusher has a water system that by spraying water onto the stone as it's crushed which will aid in reducing dust

We appreciate the concern regarding noise during the working hours and have been assured by Alberta Transportation that the contractor will:

- Strictly adhere to the province's Noise Attenuation Guidelines, as with any of our construction projects.
- The province's Noise Attenuation Guidelines require that noise be addressed should it reach higher than 65 decibels averaged over a 24-hour period.

For the gravel pit, a more stringent threshold will be used—noise will be addressed should it reach higher than 65 decibels averaged over the daily working hours.

Having a normal conversation with another person is roughly 60 decibels.

Noise will be monitored at the gravel operation pit by a third party and sensors will be used to notify KGL if noise limits are exceeded.

Should noise exceed the province's threshold, the contractor is required to modify their operation to reduce noise levels or provide additional noise mitigation measures.

As a safety precaution, fences will be installed around the gravel pit.

### **What about other equipment?**

Site lighting will only be used as needed during working hours.

Because the quarry will be dug on an angle, the crusher is expected to be approximately 10-14 meters below ground level, and approximately 200 meters from the neighboring homes for the first years of this project.

This gravel operation is expected to be active for the duration of the project, which is slated for completion in fall 2021. Mr. Garry Lamb who attended the community discussion on February 4th clarified that the operation will not be producing gravel until the last possible day, and that this is a 4 year project and not a 5 year project.

### **I have questions, who do I talk to?**

Since the community discussion on February 4th, other questions have come forward regarding health and safety, air quality and how to stay updated on this project. MLA Deborah Drever is your provincial representative and will be happy to hear from you regarding this project. Deborah and her constituency team are working to get you answers to these questions and will continue to serve you as the project

develops. When we have correct and appropriate answers to your questions, we will work to arrange a follow-up session to share with you.

You are encouraged to contact the constituency office via email so that your questions, comments and concerns can be properly recorded. The constituency contact information is posted here:

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