

Stoney Trail - Interchanges Background Information (June 2004)

What is Stoney Trail?

Stoney Trail is designated as an expressway/freeway and is identified as part of the key skeletal road network in the Calgary Transportation Plan. In addition, Stoney Trail is an important corridor for the Province of Alberta. It forms part of the Transportation Utility Corridor (TUC), also referred to as the Calgary Ring Road. This section currently under design and construction will connect the Trans-Canada Highway with Deerfoot Trail with interchanges at both highway connections.

The work being completed over the next three years includes:

- Two free-flow interchanges the first will be constructed at Stoney Trail and Trans-Canada Highway and the second at Deerfoot Trail and Stoney Trail;
- The Stoney Trail roadway's four lanes will be extended from Country Hills Boulevard to the CP Rail bridge (this will include a bridge crossing over West Nose Creek); and
- The remainder of the roadway connection between the interchanges connecting the existing Stoney Trail east from Country Hills Boulevard to Deerfoot Trail.

How is this work being completed?

There are two engineering teams working to deliver this project. One team will design and implement the interchanges and bridges across CP Rail and Nose Creek and the other team will concentrate on the roadwork between the CP overpass and Country Hills Boulevard.

What is the importance of the Trans Canada Interchange?

This interchange will replace the existing signalized intersection at Trans-Canada Highway and 101 Street. The new interchange will provide improved access and safety while reducing travel time.



What is the importance of the Deerfoot Interchange?

The Deerfoot Trail interchange will tie Stoney Trail to Deerfoot Trail with free-flow traffic movement throughout.

What is the schedule for this project?

This project will take approximately three years to complete, depending on provincial budgets and weather.

Overall Project Schedule	Construction Start Year	Construction Completion Year
Trans-Canada Highway / Stoney Trail Interchange	Winter 2005	Fall 2006
Deerfoot Trail / Stoney Trail Interchange	Winter 2005	Fall 2007
Stoney Trail from Country Hills Boulevard to Deerfoot Trail	2004	2007

What is the schedule for the Trans-Canada Highway and Stoney Trail Interchange?

Trans-Canada Highway and Stoney Trail Interchange Schedule	Start of Phase	Completion of Phase
Preliminary Design	November 2003	March 2004
Detailed Design	February / March 2004	July 2004

How much will the Stoney Trail project cost?

The project will cost an estimated \$250 million. The provincial government will provide funding of \$175 million while the federal government is providing the remaining funds.

NEW VALLEY RIDGE INTERCHANGE

At an open house in April, Valley Ridge residents were given the opportunity to provide feedback on their preferred intersection type for the Valley Ridge Boulevard and Trans-Canada Highway offramp. The majority of respondents (80%) indicated a preference for a traffic circle over traffic lights.

Why is the traffic circle preferred?

Traffic circles offer several advantages over traffic lights. These include:

- Reduces the severity of high-impact collisions (side swipe vs. t-bone)
- Minimal traffic stoppages
- Improves road safety through speed reduction

I'm concerned drivers won't know how to use the new traffic circle. How do we know it will work?



Alberta Transportation is working with the Valley Ridge Community Association to educate drivers on traffic circles. Handouts on the Valley Ridge traffic circle operations are available tonight, or from the contact information below. Traffic circles in two other Calgary communities, MacKenzie Towne and Discovery Ridge, have been implemented successfully.

Once the interchange is operational, Alberta Transportation will closely monitor it for safety.

When will the traffic circle be built?

Traffic circle construction is scheduled to start in early 2005. It will likely take three months to complete.

How will existing residences be protected from the traffic noise?

Traffic volumes are closely monitored for sound attenuation purposes. The new interchange does not increase noise levels beyond provincial standards (65 db).

Will the new traffic circle attract additional commercial vehicles?

No. This new interchange will serve the communities of Valley Ridge and Crestmont. It does not offer access to other communities served by commercial vehicles.

How can I provide comments/feedback about this project?

To learn more about this project, ask questions and provide input, visit Alberta Transportation's Web site at www.trans.gov.ab.ca (click on the construction projects link). Regular construction updates are posted on this site.

In addition, phone lines and email addresses have been established to ensure the project teams involved can respond to your inquiries.

To speak with a project team member regarding the interchanges:

Phone: 403.716.8198 (voicemail)

Email: stoney interchanges@stantec.com

To speak with a project team member regarding the Stoney Trail roadway:

Phone: 403.270.9203

Email: <u>stoneytrail@umagroup.com</u>

