

# Queen Elizabeth II Highway (QEII) and Township Road 264 Interchange Functional Planning Study

Project information Sheet – May 2016

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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Township Road 264 is the boundary between the City of Airdrie and Rocky View County. Land development proposals in Airdrie already approach its south boundary, resulting in the need to advance the definition of right-of-way requirements for a future service interchange with the QEII Highway. This study represents planning for the last new interchange location along the QEII corridor between Stoney Trail and Yankee Valley Boulevard.

The QEII is a National Highway Route and the province's premier economic corridor. Its primary role is serving long-distance, inter-regional travel, a high-mobility function. However, through the study area it also serves as an intra-regional commuter route between Calgary and Airdrie and provides access to local development in the corridor.

Township Road 264 does not currently cross QEII, terminating at service roads running adjacent to the highway. East of QEII, for approximately 3 kilometers, Township Road 264 is a two lane paved roadway. Beyond Range Road 292, the roadway surface is gravel. West of QEII, Township Road 264 has a gravel surface.

In consultation with both Rocky View County and the City of Airdrie, and other stakeholders, the purpose of this study is to determine the right-of-way required for the interchange so that land can be protected for future implementation of the plan.

## STUDY OBJECTIVES

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The objectives of the interchange Functional Planning Study are to develop a staged interchange plan that:

- Provides the most appropriate design given the site constraints and future plans for the area
- Meets drainage requirements, given the presence of Nose Creek
- Addresses environmental, geotechnical, wildlife, fishery, archeological, and historical resources
- Identifies the needed right-of-way
- Includes public and stakeholder consultation

## STUDY SCHEDULE

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The study commenced in November 2015 and is scheduled to be completed in March 2017.

To date the study team has collected and reviewed background information, identified constraints that will impact the interchange plan, and are speaking with stakeholders.

The first of three open house events will be held on June 14, 2016 to introduce the study process, outline the study objectives and organization, and present the preliminary understanding of constraints and factors affecting development of an interchange plan.

## NEXT STEPS

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In the coming months the study team will be working to develop feasible interchange alternatives and will conduct preliminary assessments of the alternatives based on the study objectives.

The Queen Elizabeth II Highway/Township Road 264 interchange is not on the province's 3 year construction plan and is not expected to be warranted in the near to medium term.

## PUBLIC & STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

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Public and Stakeholder consultation is an important part of this study. The public will be kept informed, concerns will be acknowledged and feedback will be provided on how input was incorporated into the study.

The open houses provide opportunities to express views on how the project will impact you and your community, how to make the project a success, and provides opportunity to comment on alternatives and recommendations.

For further information please contact:

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## Study Location

