



CLIMATE HUB SUBMISSION ON THE GREEN LINE

Green Line Committee meeting May 25, 2020

We support proceeding with construction of Stage 1 of the Green Line as proposed in the Stage 1 Alignment.

We congratulate the Green Line Project Team for listening to Calgarians and taking steps to mitigate the financial and construction risks, and their work on improving the customer experience.

Investment in the Green Line follows the principles of Green Stimulus. Council needs to ensure investment in Calgary's recovery aligns with the actions adopted in the City's *Climate Resilience Strategy*. These principles focus on environmental sustainability, climate mitigation, and a just transition to a carbon neutral economy. Green stimulus is the best way to meet the Administration's recommended criteria for investment.

- **The Green Line will contribute to the goals of the *Climate Resilience Strategy***
Transit is a key component of Program 5: Low or zero-emissions transportation modes, specifically by making transit a more viable choice in areas of the city which are currently under served, and by encouraging transit-oriented development along the route. Additionally, the Green Line has direct benefits for GHG emission reduction, with estimates that the line will reduce greenhouse gases by 30,000 tonnes, the equivalent of 6,000 vehicles being taken off the road on opening day.
- **The Green Line will be an important part of Calgary's economic recovery**
The City estimates the total investment of \$4.903 Billion will create an estimated 12,000 direct and 8,000 indirect jobs. This is significant and comes at a critical time when it is important to bolster Calgary's economy. Breaking the project into two segments as proposed will keep more of the project's budget within the community.

Enhance the benefits of the Green Line by continuing to invest in active transportation to provide affordable and healthy transportation options for all Calgarians by expanding protected bike lanes networks in all communities, enhancing pedestrian/bike/transit interconnection, and investing in designated bus lanes and in new buses to increase hours and quality of service. This aligns with the *RouteAhead Strategy*.

The Calgary Climate Hub's submission is a first contribution to inform the conversation about the implementation of the Green Line. We will continue to provide additional recommendations to Council as the project proceeds with detailed design and construction. We will be pleased to meet with Councillors and Administration to share our expertise.