



Calgary

Office of the Councillors

November 20, 2020

Premier, President of Executive Council
Office of the Premier
307 Legislature Building
10800 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Honourable Premier Jason Kenney

In my capacity as the City of Calgary Councillor for Ward 12, I'm writing this personal/ professional letter to you, due to our many interactions surrounding the Green Line in the past.

I continue to both publically and privately acknowledge that without your input and influence, we would not be at the LRT stage with the Green Line today. Your willingness in 2015 to dedicate \$1.5 billion to the project has allowed it to go from a bus-only Transitway to a full LRT and the largest public infrastructure project in our City's history. For that, I am eternally grateful.

I am aware the Alberta Government has hired Nick Hann as a consultant to review the Green Line project. I also realize and accept that you and the Alberta Government may have concerns regarding estimated costs, contingencies, governance structure, and the overall procurement structure as detailed in the Honourable Ric McIver's letter of October 9th, 2020. Please see (*attachment 1*) where it can be inferred these concerns come from a report written by Mr. Hann. With great confidence and accuracy, I believe these concerns have been answered by the Green Line Team in discussion with Mr. Hann. However, the Green Line Team, City Administration, and I are more than willing to address these concerns once more, to your satisfaction.

The reason why I am confident in this well-structured, and viable project, is due to the vast knowledge base that has guided the work from the multitude of experts involved. Experts were consulted every step of the way starting with for example, the Technical Risk Committee (TRC). This committee was established to address concerns raised by engaged Calgarians, City Council, and Administration. TRC synthesized the feedback with the best practice of external experts. Their recommendations have provided the foundation and guiding principles for the rest of the work. Mr. Albert Sweetnam currently chairs this committee, previously chaired by Mr. Don Fairbarin, and its members included, Mr. Eric Tromposch, and Mr. Erich Neugebauer. Please see (*attachment 2*) for their full curricula vitarum. These distinguished members have international and national experience on mega projects, many of them with the Alberta Government.

Administration is now establishing the Green Line Board to govern and oversee the successful delivery of the program. Appointment to the board is through an executive recruitment process, conducted by Boyden, a premier talent advisory and leadership solution firm with a global network spanning 40 countries. Individuals that are being sought have expertise in governance, leadership, procurement, engineering design, construction, project management, urban design and many other skills. Please view (*attachment 3*) for the desired skills criteria. The board includes City Manager, David Duckworth to ensure alignment with corporate, financial and other matters with Administration.

The City Green Line Team, are also supported by external consultants and advisors who are listed in *(attachment 4.)* These experts have designed, built and advised on multiple mega projects across the world including experts with over 40 years of experience building tunnels and bridges. I think it is quite evident and clear that the Green Line Team and City Administration are not the only ones involved in this project. I ask you not to take the City of Calgary's opinion that the Green Line as outlined is a viable project, but please also consider the numerous external experts.

It is unfortunate, that to date, the Green Line Team have not received Mr. Hann's report. This makes it difficult to address any issues without actually seeing what was reported. Six weeks have passed since we received the Honourable Ric Mclver's letter, and while there is a lot of discussion, there is very little action being taken. Today, I am asking to see a list of the specific concerns, so that we may address them in a prompt and efficient manner, to the Alberta Government's satisfaction. Once again I urge you, don't just take City Administration's word for it. I ask you to look at all the individuals that the Green Line Team has engaged, their experience, their education and abilities. There are many hands working together on developing the Green Line, making this key piece of Albertan infrastructure a monumental accomplishment. Finally, I request that the work already done be honoured by an expedient review process.

As you know, we are facing an unprecedented economic crisis due to the pandemic, global recession and the world oil price collapse. The 20,000 jobs created by the Green Line LRT project will contribute greatly to your ambitious Recovery Plan for the province and we'd like to ensure we are doing everything we can right now to not delay the jobs creation.

Mr. Premier, you and I began this journey over ten years ago. We have seen the world change in many ways, but some things, like the responsibility to provide Calgarians and Albertans with the tools necessary to grow, do not. We were able to get this off the ground, let's finish this together, just like we started it.

Thank you in advance for your continual efforts to get shovels in the ground as soon as possible, for the benefit of Alberta's economy, and hundreds of thousands of Calgarians.

Sincerely,



Shane Keating
Ward 12 Councillor
City of Calgary

Attachments:

1. *Minister Ric Mclver Letter to Mayor Nenshi*
2. *Technical Risk Committee Curricula Vitarum*
3. *Skills Criteria for Green Line Board*
4. *List of Consultant Corporations*

cc: Honourable Ric Mclver, MLA for Calgary-Hays
Your Worship, Naheed Nenshi, Mayor, City of Calgary
Mr. Michael Thompson, Green Line General Manager, City of Calgary
Mr. Jeff Binks, President, LRT on the Green Foundation