

Strategic Planning Committee

March 2017 Update

The purpose of this document is to provide a high-level update on the City's plan to put a full turn intersection at Crowchild Trail and 24th Avenue NW. This document summarizes the efforts to date and proposed next steps.

Committee Members: Joe Klassen, Bob and Claudette Coutts, Frank Hoebarth, Gary Fiselier, Marie Fraser, Ben Morgan Steve McKinnon and David Rowbotham.

Parish Council Representative - Bernard Benning

Building & Maintenance Representative - Bill Bergman

Background:

In the spring of 2016 St Pius X Parish began to discuss the needed infrastructure for the parish to support the desired activities. In particular, considerable attention was given to the current state of the hall and as a result, we took steps to reach out to Bishop Henry and some diocesan administrative staff to discuss the future of St. Pius X prior to making any plans and or investments. The feedback we received was positive and we were encouraged to develop a presence in our community.

During the summer of 2016, St. Pius X Parish learned that the City of Calgary's Transportation Planning -- Crowchild Trail Study Group had developed a plan for a full-turn intersection at Crowchild Trail and 24 Avenue NW. The plan presented had a significant impact on St Pius X Parish. The impact is as follows:

- ✓ Encroachment on the southside of the Church property and cut off the southside of the Hall;
- ✓ Loss of well over half of the parking lot;
- ✓ Serious access and egress problems; and
- ✓ Environmental and safety concerns - noise pollution and other important social and safety concerns.

St. Pius X Activities and Actions:

Our Parish Council enrolled the Strategic Planning Committee to address the new developments and assess the impact.

In early September, we met with City representatives and we impressed upon them our strong concerns with their proposal and urged them to revise their plan. A follow up to our meeting was a written response which they reviewed and accepted.

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In early January, the City Crowchild Trail Study Team presented their revisions to us. They had moved the 24 Avenue ramp further to the south and it would not be encroaching on the "green" space between the sidewalk and our property. We will lose about 21% of the parking lot. They assured us that as we got closer to final design, we would need to work with the City to resolve issues such as: vehicle access and egress, noise, exhaust pollution, pedestrian safety and other social issues.

Throughout our planning, we keep Bishop Henry and diocesan staff apprised of developments, we seek input and support. As stated, we are encouraged to move forward.

Next Steps:

On April 19th, 2017, we present to the City's Standing Policy Committee on Transportation and Transit Committee. Our objective is to alert the Committee of Alderman and Transportation Executives as to our concerns. We will be briefing our Alderman beforehand.

There is still considerable planning and work to be done. The Committee still needs to resolve the parking situation, meet with Community neighbors and continue to examine the hall structure before making a recommendation and meet with Bishop William McGrattan to bring him up to date.

Conclusion:

We are pleased with the progress and developments with the City and we welcome the opportunity to work alongside them to resolve the issues outlined above.

Please reach out to your Strategic Planning Committee, Parish Council and or Building & Maintenance Representative if you have any questions.