

Civic Affairs June Newsletter article

Michael Benoit, Chairman

Ramsay Exchange – Plains Fabrication is on schedule to vacate their premises by end of June, moving their operations to a new industrial facility in the southeast. Rumour has it that F&D Scene Changes have negotiated a three year lease on their building, so won't be moving out any time soon. An Interface Study, one of the six conditions for Second and Third reading of the land use change application LOC2007-0080, will be conducted between the applicant Torode Commercial and the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede over the next few months. Brown and Associates, a consulting firm hired by the City, will be doing the study and writing a report which will be circulated to the Civic Affairs Committee for comment before it is presented to City Council. Other stakeholders in the process include Alberta Health Services, Calgary Health Region (CHR) and Alberta Environment (AENV). The applicant has not approached the Committee with any further changes or studies to support their application to mixed use residential and commercial.

Calgary Stampede Back of House – By the end of May, Spiller Road will likely be re-opened again, with a bridge over the underpass connecting the Stampede property adjacent to 25th Ave. to their operations on the west side of the Elbow River. When this underpass is functional, Spiller gate, which for years was the back of house gate into the community road network, will be closed. The Stampede will have its own entranceways on Dartmouth Road and on 25th Avenue, where all heavy trucks and animal trailers will enter and exit the Stampede properties. This will be a big change for this year's Stampede.

Construction is also proceeding on the CES's new suspension bridge over the river. When it is completed the regional pathway system along the east bank of the Elbow will be re-opened to pedestrian and bicycle traffic. After Stampede this year (July 3 – 12), the landscaping at the intersection of Spiller Road and 25th Avenue will be completed. This landscaping will contain a Ramsay community entrance feature in the form of a large sandstone block with the Ramsay community logo attached to it. The Stampede has generously donated \$7,100 towards the Beautification project to mark the Spiller Road entrance to the Ramsay community. Thanks to Jim Bellingham and Warren Connell of the Stampede administration for this generous gift to the community. The Beautification Committee report will contain more details about the new entrance feature as it develops.

Civic Affairs Committee – With the economic downturn, the pace of infill construction has slowed significantly throughout Calgary and including our own community. In the past three months the Committee has only had to review one Development Permit application. This is a welcome relief to Committee members who have had a very hectic two years reviewing the Ramsay Exchange application and a number of smaller development applications. The Committee always welcomes new members. If you wish to participate in this important community group, contact the Chairman at 403-291-0865 or through the Ramsay Community website.

Ramsay community website - Thanks go out to Arthur Matsui for his stewardship of the community's website administration. The site is now more up to date with important news and information about community events. The Civic Affairs site contains most of the relevant documentation on Ramsay Exchange and other significant development activities.