

Civic Affairs Report - July/August 2009
Michael Benoit Chairman

Ramsay Exchange / Stampede Expansion

On May 27 representatives from the Civic Affairs Committee and Board of Directors of the RCA were invited on a Stampede Back of House tour hosted by Gerry McHugh and Roy Wright. A similar tour was given to other stakeholders (Bylaw, Environment, Alberta Health Services, Torode, Land Use and Planning) a couple of weeks previous. This tour was part of the preparation for an Interface Study required before second and third readings in Council, to consider the land use application for Ramsay Exchange. This study is one of six conditions to be met by the applicant Torode Commercial before second and third reading is placed on the agenda for City Council debate and vote. We wish to thank Warren Connell and CES staff for making this tour available to community members. Civic Affairs Committee will be circulated on the final draft of the Interface Study, and our comments will be placed in an Appendix attached to the Study. This will probably happen in late June or in early July. The final version of the Interface Study and the community's comments on it, will be placed on the Ramsay community website.

Plan It Calgary goes before City Council in a special Public Hearing on June 23. Citizens are encouraged to speak before Council in support or in opposition to the Land Use Planning and Transportation future plan for Calgary. The development and building industry has launched a vigorous campaign against Plan It because they feel it unfairly targets suburban growth and places a priority on densification in established communities where transit, roads and infrastructure already exists.

As the summer break approaches, I would like to personally thank all community volunteers on the Civic Affairs Committee who have donated countless hours in meetings over the past two years, as we wrestled with complex planning documents and development proposals large and small. Thank you Civic Affairs members! the Committee welcomes new members. If you wish to participate in Civic Affairs in the fall, please contact Chairman to discuss details.