



ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

September 14, 2023

AR 94358

Her Worship Tanya Thorn  
Mayor  
Town of Okotoks  
PO Box 20  
Okotoks, AB T1S 1K1  
[tthorn@okotoks.ca](mailto:tthorn@okotoks.ca)

Ms. Delilah Miller  
Reeve  
Foothills County  
PO Box 5605  
High River, AB T1V 1M7  
[delilah.miller@foothillscountyab.ca](mailto:delilah.miller@foothillscountyab.ca)

Dear Mayor Thorn and Reeve Miller:

Thank you for your August 22, 2023 joint letter regarding the Highway 2 corridor in the Foothills County/Town of Okotoks area.

Highway safety is a top priority for Transportation and Economic Corridors, and I appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns. You are valuable stakeholders, and I want to ensure we continue building our relationship.

With respect to the intersection of Highway 2 and 338 Avenue in particular, an interchange at this location has been identified as a future project, based on the completed functional planning study. The interchange project will be evaluated along with all other projects from across the province as part of the capital planning process.

Regarding the Highway 2 and Highway 552 intersection, the minor recommendations from the 2022 ISL review have been reviewed and implemented, including improvements to signage and line painting. The major recommendation from ISL Engineering's 2022 review is the construction of a roundabout, and I can confirm the roundabout project will also be evaluated annually as part of the capital planning process.

Knowing both the interchange at Highway 2 and 338 Avenue and the roundabout at Highway 2 and Highway 552 are important projects, I assure you they will be advanced as soon as provincial priorities and funding are available. However, there are no confirmed timelines for design and/or construction until the projects are placed on the Provincial Construction Program.

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I also understand you may have been unaware of the altered plans for the median closures of 306, 338, and 370 Avenues in advance and that this may be upsetting for some people. With your support, a decision was made to close the medians; however, since then, we have heard concerns from several impacted businesses and local residents that made us decide to pause and further consider the decision. Therefore, while you may disagree, it is important that a second and completely independent safety review be conducted of the Highway 2 corridor to ensure we are making the most strategic and impactful safety improvements.

If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. Darren Davidson, Regional Director. Mr. Davidson can be reached toll-free by first dialing 310-0000, then 403-381-5533, or at [darren.davidson@gov.ab.ca](mailto:darren.davidson@gov.ab.ca).

Thank you for taking the time to write regarding these important issues.

Sincerely,



Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA  
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

cc: Honourable RJ Sigurdson, MLA for Highwood  
Chelsae Petrovic, MLA for Livingstone-Macleod  
Darren Davidson, Regional Director, Transportation and Economic Corridors