

May 25, 2021

To: Councillor Shane Keating, Chair, Green Line Committee
Don Fairbairn, Chair, Calgary Green Line Board
Ward 7 Councillor, Druh Farrell

cc: Jessica Cullen, Leader, Acquisitions – Green Line

Dear Councillor Keating, Mr. Fairbairn and Councillor Farrell,

Re: River Run Condominiums, Condominium Plan No. 9510906 (“River Run”)

For over a year the City has depicted the Green Line driving through our families’ homes on the City website, in the news, on billboards and in public forums. At the same time the City has been asking owners to participate in acquisition discussions. We requested that the City pay our reasonable costs to be informed prior to such discussions. The City refused. The purpose of this letter is to ask the City to reconsider our request.

For discussions to be fair, we requested that the City pay our costs to be reasonably informed regarding our rights and value. Our property is unique and this situation is highly unusual. Rarely does a government intend to destroy an entire family complex. Any person put in this difficult position by a government would want to be reasonably informed. The City has expropriation experts, a legal team and valuation experts to navigate this difficult situation. We do not.

By refusing to cover our costs, the City is putting pressure on us to choose between: (i) incurring costs that may never be reimbursed; or (ii) potentially making the biggest financial decision of our lives without being reasonably informed.

The citizens of River Run love our property and we have no desire to leave. However, as it seems inevitable that the City will engage in formal expropriation processes, while we reserve all of our rights to object to the expropriation of our homes, we are nonetheless willing to participate in fair discussions and we have done our part to try to make that happen. The City is aware that 96% of River Run owners have agreed to share information with each other and have lined up one law firm and one appraiser in order to have an organized process and to keep costs down. Owners simply want to have a relatively small amount of information and resources, as compared to the City, prior to engaging in the acquisition discussions that have been requested by the City.

For several years the City has effectively frozen our property. In March 2020, we learned for the first time, at a public forum, that the City intends to destroy our entire family complex. At the Green Line Committee meeting on May 19, 2021, we again had to view pictures of our homes destroyed by the City. At this time, there is no principled reason to continue to refuse to cover our costs to be reasonably informed prior to acquisition discussions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Board of Directors, River Run.