



## **CAPITAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

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<b>TO:</b>	Council	<b>DIVISION:</b>	7
<b>DATE:</b>	September 21, 2021	<b>APPLICATION:</b>	N/A
<b>FILE:</b>	N/A		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Response to Notice of Motion – Range Road 290 – Network Expansion for Service Level Increase for Rocky View County Heavy Industry		

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

At the September 7th, 2021 Council Meeting, Council directed Administration to bring forward a report that provides options and associated cost estimates for Council's consideration that addresses the issues related to heavy industry hauling on Range Road 290 between Highway 566 and Township Road 270.

Businesses in the area utilize Range Road 290 to travel south and access the Province's designated high load corridor along Highway 566. Traffic counts conducted by the County in the summer of 2021 indicate an above average percentage of trucks that utilize Range Road 290.

Range Road 290 is currently not designated as a high load corridor and there are a number of overhead power lines along the route which need to be adjusted for high loads to traverse the roadway. Initial estimates from Fortis received by private industry indicate costs in the range of \$170,000 to permanently relocate the overhead lines which would allow unrestricted access to Highway 566.

Range Road 290 was improved under the County's annual road program over the past two years. The project involved a subgrade reconstruction of the roadway from Highway 566 to Township Road 270. Some final activities for the project are expected to be completed before the end of this year and the work undertaken on the project to date has been completed under budget.

Administration recommends a portion of the unspent budget be utilized to address power line moves on Range Road 290 between Highway 566 and Township Road 270 to allow the movement of high loads through the corridor in accordance with Option #1.

### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:**

Administration recommends approval in accordance with Option #1.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Improvements have been ongoing on Range Road 290 over the past two years as part of the County's annual road program. The project involved a subgrade reconstruction of the roadway from Highway 566 to Township Road 270. Final activities on the project are expected to be completed by the end of 2021.

Since the road is gravel, the road continues to be subject to the County's annual road bans in accordance with County Bylaws. Additionally, this road is not identified by the Province as being part of the high load corridor, and as such a number of overhead power lines cross the roadway limiting the height of equipment that can traverse this roadway without requiring line moves.

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### **Administration Resources**

Angela Yurkowski, Capital Project Management



Currently, if a resident or business requires the overhead lines to be moved, it is done at the expense of the applicant. Fortis has provided a preliminary quote of \$170,000 to permanently designate this portion of roadway high load corridor. This cost encompasses the move of all overhead power lines from Highway 566 to Township Road 270.

Range Road 290 within this area is identified within Rocky View County's Regional Transportation Offsite Levy Bylaw as a Network "B" roadway with a 9.0m paved surface and 30.0m right of way. Considering the recent improvements done to the roadway surface and relatively low traffic volumes, further improvements to Range Road 290 from Highway 566 to Township Road 270 are not within the County's ten (10) year road program.

Additionally, the Province will soon be commencing work on the Airdrie Bypass Functional Study. It is anticipated that Range Road 290 will be considered as an option for the bypass alignment, however this will be further defined as part of the Functional Study.

#### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

The cost to permanently move the overhead power lines along Range Road 290 between Highway 566 and Township Road 270 is approximately \$170,000. Sufficient funds remain in the Range Road 290 project budget for this work to be undertaken without the need for a further budget adjustment.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS PLAN:**

N/A

#### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:**

Working with Fortis to complete the movement of the overhead lines along Range Road 290 to support access to the Province's high load corridor aligns with Council's strategic themes of Service Excellence and Responsible Growth.

#### **OPTIONS:**

- Option #1: THAT Council direct Administration to work with Fortis to complete the movement of the overhead lines between Highway 566 and Township Road 270 to facilitate the movement of high loads on this section of roadway. This scope is to be covered within the existing Council approved budget for the Range Road 290 project.
- Option #2: THAT Council direct Administration to bring this item forward for budget consideration as part of the 2022 Capital Budget.
- Option #3: THAT Council direct Administration to continue monitoring the use of Range Road 290 in accordance with the County's Policy C-400 Annual Road and Bridge Program. Costs for temporary relocation of overhead power lines will continue to be borne by private landowners and industry.
- Option #4: THAT alternative direction be provided.



Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

"Byron Riemann"

"Kent Robinson"

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Executive Director  
Operations

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Acting Chief Administrative Officer

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

ATTACHMENT 'A' – Location Overview