

# **Local Transit Service GreenTRIP Funding**

**Regular Council Meeting  
January 9, 2017**



# Presentation

- Background GreenTRIP
- Current Situation
- Evaluation / Benefits of Local Transit
- **Calgary Transit – Feasibility Study**
- Next Steps / Financial Implications
- **Recommendation**

# Background

- **Green Transit Incentives Program (GreenTRIP)** is an Alberta Transportation capital funding program intended to support public transit in Alberta
- **Intended to provide communities with a wide range of sustainable public transit alternatives**
  - Increase ridership
  - Reduce traffic congestion
  - Reduce emissions

# Background

- **2011** – Town was approved for \$9 million of funding for the creation of local and regional transit service and the construction of a transit terminal (2021)
- Town was required to fund \$3 million (1/3)



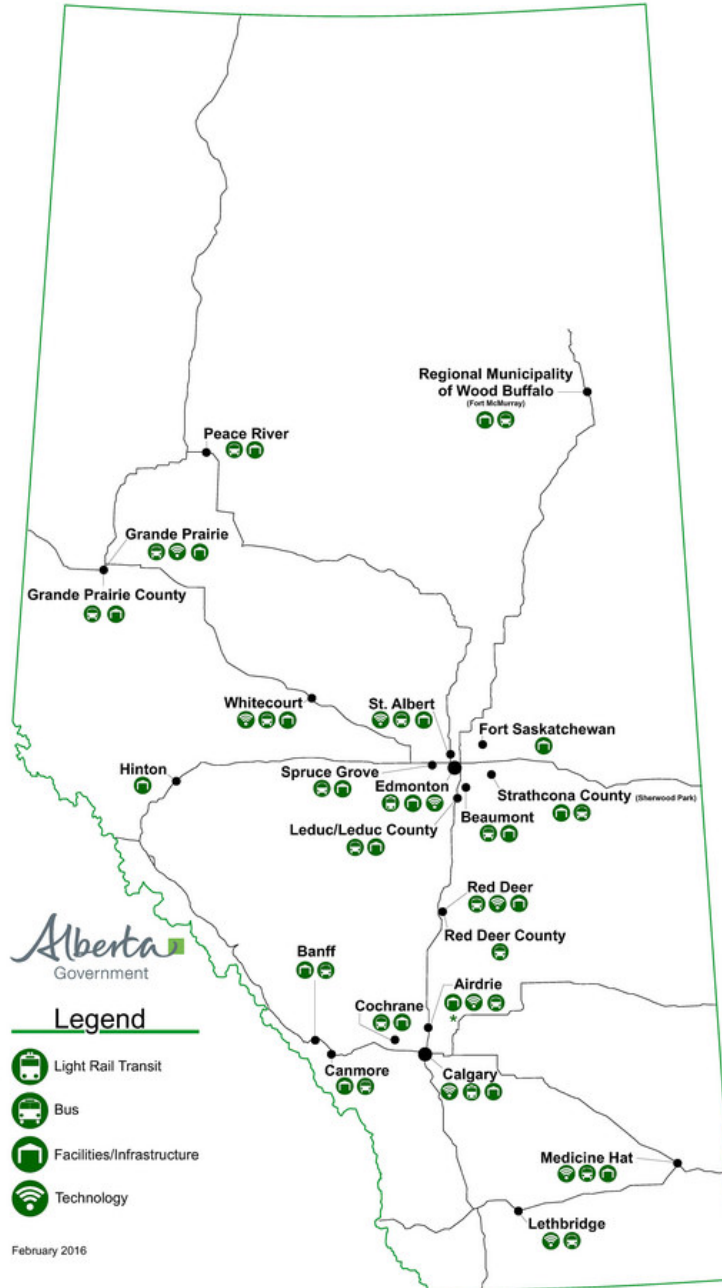
## Province provides \$6.1-million for transit

Daniel Austin / Cochrane Times

Clockwise from top left: Mayor Truper McBride, Premier Ed Stelmach, Cochrane-Banff MLA Janis Tarchuk, Chamber of Commerce Representative Richard Foy, and SPUR representative Valeria McCracken celebrate the announcement that Cochrane will be receiving \$6.1-million for public transportation from the province.

# Green Transit Incentives Program

## GreenTRIP Approved Projects



Alberta  
Government

## Legend



Light Rail Transit



Bus



Facilities/Infrastructure



Technology

February 2016

Banff



Cochrane



Canmore



Red Deer



Red Deer County



Airdrie



Calgary



Medicine Hat



Lethbridge



# **Resolution #64/03/13**

## **Moved by Councillor Watson**

**That Council receives the Transit Alternatives Analysis Report for information, to be used to inform further decisions regarding the implementation of transit; and further that Council endorses the strategy recommended in Option 2 as outlined in the report as a manageable first step for transit in Cochrane, and endorses the strategy recommended to establish a local area bus service, and further that Council directs Administration to prepare and submit a Transit Implementation Plan to the Alberta Transportation Green TRIP incentives program to confirm capital funding approval.**



# Current Situation

- **CRP is now focused upon regional transit opportunities**
- **Presentation on December 12, 2016**
- **Rapid growth in the community**
- **Changing needs in the community**

# Evaluation

- **2016 the Town received a Public Transit Infrastructure Fund Grant to review the feasibility of transit, staging of implementation and preparation of routes with proposed bus stops and shelters**
- **Town commissioned Calgary Transit to prepare a Transit Feasibility Study**

# **Amended Application**

**The recommendations of the Transit Feasibility Study are intended to support an amended application for GreenTRIP funding and set the stage for a phased introduction of local transit service to the Town, potentially in the Fall of 2018**

# **Benefits of Local Transit**

- **Meets the goals and objectives of the Town**
- **It will provide mobility options in the community, particularly for those unable to drive or with accessibility challenges**
- **Will provide connections to regional transit**
- **Will provide a level of service consistent with other mid-sized cities in Alberta**

# Calgary Transit

- **Asif Kurji**
  - **Senior Transit Planner, Strategic Planning**
- **Neil McKendrick**
  - **Senior Transit Planner**
- **Filip Majerkiewicz,**
  - **Transit Planner**

# Next Steps

- **Submit an amended GreenTRIP application to the Province of Alberta to support the ultimate transit network valued at \$9.0 million**
- **Report back to Council outlining the process for public engagement to seek input on a phasing plan**

# Next Steps

- **Solicit input from potential contractors regarding interest in operation of the service and vehicle maintenance.**
- **Develop a fare strategy with public and stakeholder input that would determine fare types (tickets, passes, cash, electronic media, etc), fare pricing, possible discounts and subsidies and the ability of fare revenue to support quality of service aspirations**

# Next Steps

- **Conduct a detailed investigation into the use of on-demand service as a way of providing an affordable phased approach to introducing fixed route services in all communities.**
- **Prepare a follow-up report in September 2017 that provides a recommended transit operating budget for 2018 informed by the results of the activities listed above.**



# Financial Implications

- Approval of this Feasibility Study is not a budget approval
- Should Council approve the Feasibility Study, the 10 year financial strategy would be updated in spring 2017 as part of the regular business planning cycle.

# Recommendation

Administration is recommending **Option 1**

That Council approves the Cochrane Transit Feasibility Study.

That Council directs Administration to proceed with the submission of an amended GreenTRIP application based on the Cochrane Transit Feasibility Study.

**Thank You.**

