LRT grows with new communities

BY JOSH SKAPIN, CALGARY HERALD AUGUST 15, 2015



Auburn Bay is one of the communities set to benefit from the planned LRT Green Line Calgary Herald

"The availability of an alternate transportation option will improve connectivity with down-town and, along with an anticipated lighter load on roadways, will result in an additional choice for transportation and another reason to live in Quarry Park," says Glen Deibert, residential director at Remington Development Corp. Remington is the developer behind Quarry Park and the builder of two condo developments in the community.

The federal government announced a \$1.53 billion pledge to the project from the federal Public Transit Fund last month, which means the city will likely be able to build the LRT line faster than anticipated, says Julie Yepishina-Geller with the City of Calgary. However, the city is still reviewing construction timelines and how to phase the project, she adds. Construction is expected to start in 2017 but may change depending on funding. Once complete, the LTR line will stretch 40 kilometres from North Pointe in the north to Seton in the south with stops in downtown Calgary.

"Quarry Park homeowners, professionals, and retailers will certainly benefit from this transit improvement with faster and easier access," says Deibert.

The move is "positive news," says Nicole McLaws, Hopewell Residential's marketing manager for housing. Hopewell builds in the southeast communities of Mahogany and Copperfield. Mahogany was named Community of the Year at the recent Canadian Home Builders' Association-Calgary Region SAM Awards.

"Connectivity is a primary consideration for new home buyers," says McLaws. "While our new homes and communities are conveniently located within proximity of many major roadways, having the Green Line just minutes from our homeowners' doorsteps will be an exciting added benefit. This is great news for our growing communities, and will surely be appreciated by our current and future homeowners alike."

In Auburn Bay, Brookfield Residential builds single-family homes, duplexes and town-homes. Kelly Halliday, Brookfield's business development manager-south, likes the added "connectivity and convenience" the project will bring residents in the community.

"Knowing the timeline for the City of Calgary's Green Line arrival in Auburn Bay will also help residents understand the full amenity their community has to offer," adds Halliday.

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