

Barlow Trail will close permanently in 69 weeks –

How will this impact you???

In March, 2011, access from the South to Calgary's Airport via Barlow Trail will be eliminated. To make way for their new north/south runway, the Airport Authority is closing both Barlow Trail and McCall Way north of McKnight Boulevard.

This is nothing new – the Airport and the City have both had this planned for 15+ years. What is new is closing Barlow while at the same time eliminating the long-planned-for and promised tunnel underneath the runway for an east-west connection on Airport Trail/96th Avenue. Driving the east ring road you will see Calgary's "Bridge to Nowhere" at Airport Trail. The Province built this overpass to allow stop-light-free Airport access from the east. Without the tunnel, this access is not possible.

So, the question...."Does Barlow Trail's closure matter if you live in Tuscany or Sundance or the Beltline?"

If you travel on Deerfoot, north of Memorial, it no doubt will. Calgarians have all experienced congestion on Deerfoot. Without the tunnel, everyone from Strathmore, Okotoks, Riverbend and Chaparral will be adding to that congestion. In fact, without the tunnel, many of the estimated 50,000 vehicles per day on Barlow will be sharing the Deerfoot parking lot with you.

Time is of the essence. The Airport Tunnel Action Committee (A.T.A.C.) - www.yestunnel.com - have scheduled a town hall meeting for Monday, November 9th, 7:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Cavalier. Come out, get a progress update and make your voice heard.

Alderman Jim Stevenson
Ward 3