

# 61 Avenue S.E. Extension – Project Profile

## About the Project

The project includes the construction of a:

- two-lane road from the existing flyover at Southeast Ring Road to 68 Street S.E.
- four-lane road from 68 Street to 57 Street S.E.
- new bridge over Forest Lawn Creek

## Benefits from Project



- Provides for better transportation of people, goods and services, and will energize growth of future and planned development in the area
- Provides an accessible east-west connection for truckers to major distribution centres and transportation corridors in southeast Calgary, as well as a connection for truckers/motorists from the east side of Stoney Trail
- Environmental improvements and protection with the construction of a new bridge over Forest Lawn Creek and in the upgrading and revitalization of wetlands along 61 Avenue

- Provides for pedestrian movement along 61 Avenue, including a regional pathway which will ultimately connect with Ralph Klein Park
- Fulfills the agreement between The City and the Provincial Government to construct roadway connections at specific locations along the Southeast Ring Road

## Timeline

- May 2015 – construction began
- June 2016 – construction completed

## Budget

\$23.5 million – includes land acquisition, engineering, construction and environmental improvements

## Environmental protection and improvements

The project team made sure that the sensitive environmental elements were well protected, recognizing that the project would have some affect on local wetlands. Working with Alberta Environment and The City’s Parks department, all mitigation strategies available were applied to minimize these impacts. Also, alternative roadway alignments were explored to ensure this project found the right balance among environmental, economic and social factors.

Some of the key environmental protection initiatives included construction of a longer bridge over Forest Lawn Creek to allow for safer movement of animals along the creek, upgrades to the wetlands area along 61 Avenue, and construction of a sidewalk and regional pathway.

## Background

As a part of the agreement between The City of Calgary and the Alberta Government, The City is required to construct roadway connections to the South East Ring Road at specific locations to accommodate the flow and movement of traffic. The Province decided to build the flyover at 61 Avenue in response to requests from stakeholders on the east side of the Ring Road.