



Staff Sergeant Ed Bourque
Chief of Police
Drumheller RCMP

CAO Darryl Drohomerski
Town of Drumheller

March 15, 2022

Dear Mr. Drohomerski,

Re: **Drumheller Flood Mitigation Steps
 Proposed Closure of Riverside Drive
 Between 3rd Avenue East and approximately 2 residences South of 3rd Avenue East
 Also known as Shumacher's Corner
 In support of a Downtown Dike**

This letter is in reference to the above noted planning for the closure of the above noted portions of Riverside Drive to facilitate the building of a dike to support progress in the area of flood mitigation.

After my review of all of the information learned via the following:

- the Traffic Impact Assessment;
- my discussions with:
 - Yourself;
 - Drumheller Manager of Emergency Services, Greg Peters;
 - Mayor Heather Colberg;
 - Flood Resiliency Project Director, Deighen Blakely;
 - Previous DEM Darwin Durnie;
- My attendance at meetings with the Flood Mitigation Team;

I maintain, as the Chief of Police for Drumheller representing the RCMP, I must remain completely objective in any discussions and/or decisions of a political nature. I acknowledge that this is one such decision that is currently a debate of interest for some within Drumheller.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police **Gendarmerie royale du Canada**

Compassion
Compassion

Honesty
Honnêteté

Professionalism
Professionalisme

Integrity
Intégrité

Respect
Respect

Accountability
Responsabilité

If I may refer to slide 13 of the Traffic Impact Assessment, it appears that RCMP members departing the detachment have the option, if travelling eastbound on Riverside Drive:

- turn right (South) on 3rd Street East;
- left (East) on 4th Avenue East;
- right (South) on 5th Street East to access the traffic lights;
- then proceed east on Highway 10 to access communities like Rosedale and such.

Members also have the option of departing the detachment South on:

- either 1st, or 2nd Street East;
- left (East) on 4th Avenue East, and so on.

During peak traffic hours downtown (summertime with an influx of population), I would of course discourage members from travelling:

- through the congested downtown core at all;
- going westbound on 2nd Avenue East;
- turning left (South) on 2nd Street West;

due to the traffic lights, and chance for increased congestion to try and navigate.

From what I have learned, the proposed closure will be somewhat of an inconvenience for RCMP members, but one that is negligible.

Lastly, I anticipate the difference in RCMP response time to residences in the following areas will be negligible as well:

- in the northeast corner between the borders of 3rd Street East, 3rd Avenue East and (the current) Riverside Drive;
- in the northeast 2 blocks between the borders of 3rd Street East, 4th Avenue East and 5th Street East.

Over and above this potential inconvenience to our members, in their ability to travel as it currently stands, is the safety of the public from heavy flooding. To that end, I believe this dike will decrease the probability of a flood that will affect residences, and the RCMP detachment. Due to the RCMP priority of safer homes, safer communities, I further support moving forward with the plan as set out.

In summary, based on my knowledge, and taking into consideration the size of our emergency vehicles / the space we require to navigate residential streets, I have concluded that I support the above noted road closure proposal, as set out.

Yours Truly,

Staff Sergeant E.R. Bourque