

## From Sound Attenuation Walls to a Sense of Place: Harnessing the Power of Intermunicipal Collaboration

Thursday, December 2, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

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The Calgary – Chestermere Interface Intermunicipal Development Plan (The Interface IDP) is an area-specific intermunicipal plan that was jointly developed by The City of Calgary and the City of Chestermere. Annexations of lands in 2009 resulted in Calgary and Chestermere, two urban municipalities of different sizes, having a shared municipal interface along Range Road 284 (also known as 116 Street SE or Conrich Road). If planned in isolation and treated as urban fringe, existing municipal policy and road standards would have resulted in a tunnel-like interface lined with sound attenuation walls, and high traffic volumes and design speeds.

As development pressure increased, both municipalities committed to jointly developing a statutory policy to create a vibrant and active interface. Differences in municipal policies, plans and resource availability led to challenges and delays. The intermunicipal project team remained steadfast to the task and pushed forward to overcome those challenges and deliver a unique plan in participation and coordination with local and regional stakeholders.

The Interface IDP was approved by Calgary and Chestermere councils in early 2020. It represents a unique approach to intermunicipal development plans as this focalized intervention provides a framework for development. It is an example of how collaboration and coordination between two municipalities can go beyond relationship management, to achieve a common vision and framework for a mutually beneficial development plan.

Presenters:



**Lisette Burga Gheresi –RPP, MCIP, MCAP – Senior Planner, The City of Calgary**

Lisette Burga Gheresi, originally from Chiclayo – Peru, has more than 20 years of professional experience in Peru and Canada. As a Licensed Architect in Peru, Lisette worked as a public servant developing area structure plans, completing Heritage Guidelines for historic districts as well as leading the design and construction of various projects. She continues to support local initiatives in small and rural municipalities in northern Peru where possible. A few years after completing her master's degree at University of Calgary she joined the City of Calgary where she has worked on a range of facility management projects, land use planning and development permit application, community engagement and policy planning project including leading the Interface IDP and currently co-leading the work for the Heritage Communities Local Area Plan. (MCAP = Member of the Peruvian Association of Architects)



**Karl Mielke – RPP, MCIP – Senior Transit Planner, The City of Calgary**

Karl Mielke was the community planner for Chestermere on the Interface IDP project team. He has eight years of municipal planning experience in the Calgary region, and now does operational planning for Calgary Transit. Karl's career focus is on transit-oriented development, urban design, redevelopment and infill.



**Jordan Furness BBA, RPP, MCIP – Senior Planner, City of Chestermere**

Jordan Furness has 14 years of experience working for several Alberta municipalities, including development or implementation of Intermunicipal Development Plans for Red Deer County, The City of Red Deer, and the Towns of Sylvan Lake and Bowden. He is currently working to implement the Calgary-Chestermere IDP.