

Calgary



Discovery Ridge Dam Safety Project Info Session

November 20, 2025



Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Background & Past Work
- Longterm Solution & Current work
- Next Steps
- Q&A

Please note:

- This presentation is being recorded
- If you have a question or comments, please type them into the Q&A box





Introductions

Frank Frigo, P.Eng.,

Manager, Environmental Management

Member of Dam Safety Advisory Committee

Leigh Beaton, P.Eng.,

Project Engineer, Stormwater Project Development

Project Manager

1948



1957



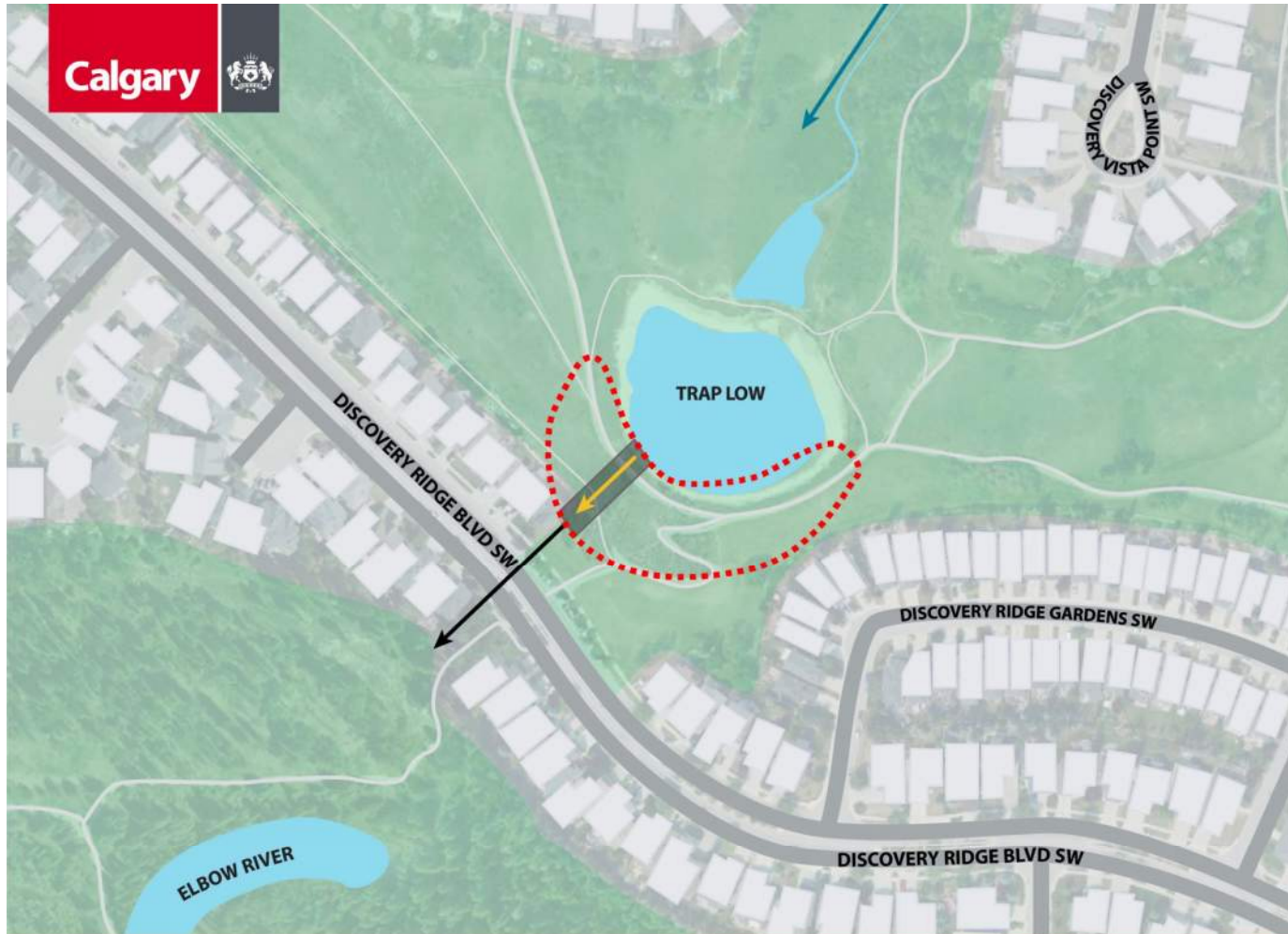
2003



2024



Overview of Site



Discovery Ridge Dam Project

Legend

Spring water

Dam

Stone block spillway

Underground outlet pipe

Culvert conveys water to Griffith Woods Park and eventually Elbow River

A dam is a barrier constructed for the purpose of storing, diverting, or retaining water.

A trap low is a depressed or naturally low area that collects and holds water.

Project Background

- Regulatory Compliance & Risk Management
 - 2018 Alberta Dam Safety Regulatory Framework
 - Dam Safety Policy and Management Plan
 - Consequence classification based on the potential downstream impacts of a failure confirmed the structure as a high consequence dam
 - Independent Dam Safety Review identified critical dam safety deficiency



Actions we have taken

April 2024

- Water level lowered
- Information Session



June 2024

- Outlet Pipe extended



2024-2025

- Assess options
- Recommendation of embankment removal



Why we're doing this project

- Updates to the 2018 Alberta Dam Safety Regulatory Framework
- A 2024 independent safety review found the dam slope does not meet stability requirements and could put residents and the community at risk. This level of risk is not acceptable.
- The City is prioritizing keeping everyone safe by building on the steps taken in Spring 2024 and advancing this project to remove the dam and create a new natural community space.



- Concept Design Phase of the project:
 - Engineering & Technical analysis:
 - Hydrotechnical analysis
 - Grading and slope stability analysis & design
 - Preliminary Natural Site Assessment
 - Landscape Design
 - Integrate a natural space design
 - Enhance natural space and restore natural function
 - Park space opportunities
 - Community Engagement
 - Ensure community input and functionality are integrated in the final design



Future Park Space

- A new natural channel or wetland to move spring water through the area.
- Returning the surrounding area will be returned to a naturalized condition supporting biodiversity in the community.
- Ensuring community input and functionality are considered in the long-term solution design.



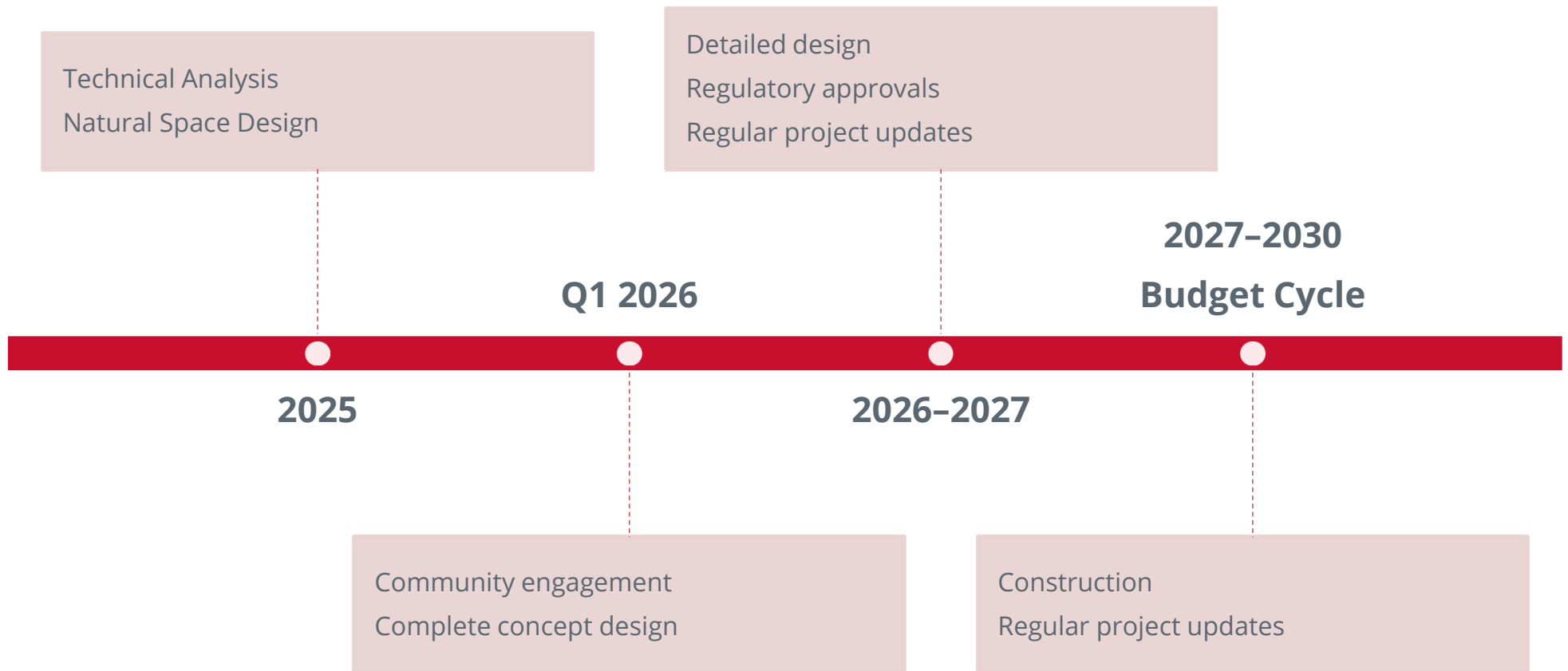
Example Imagery





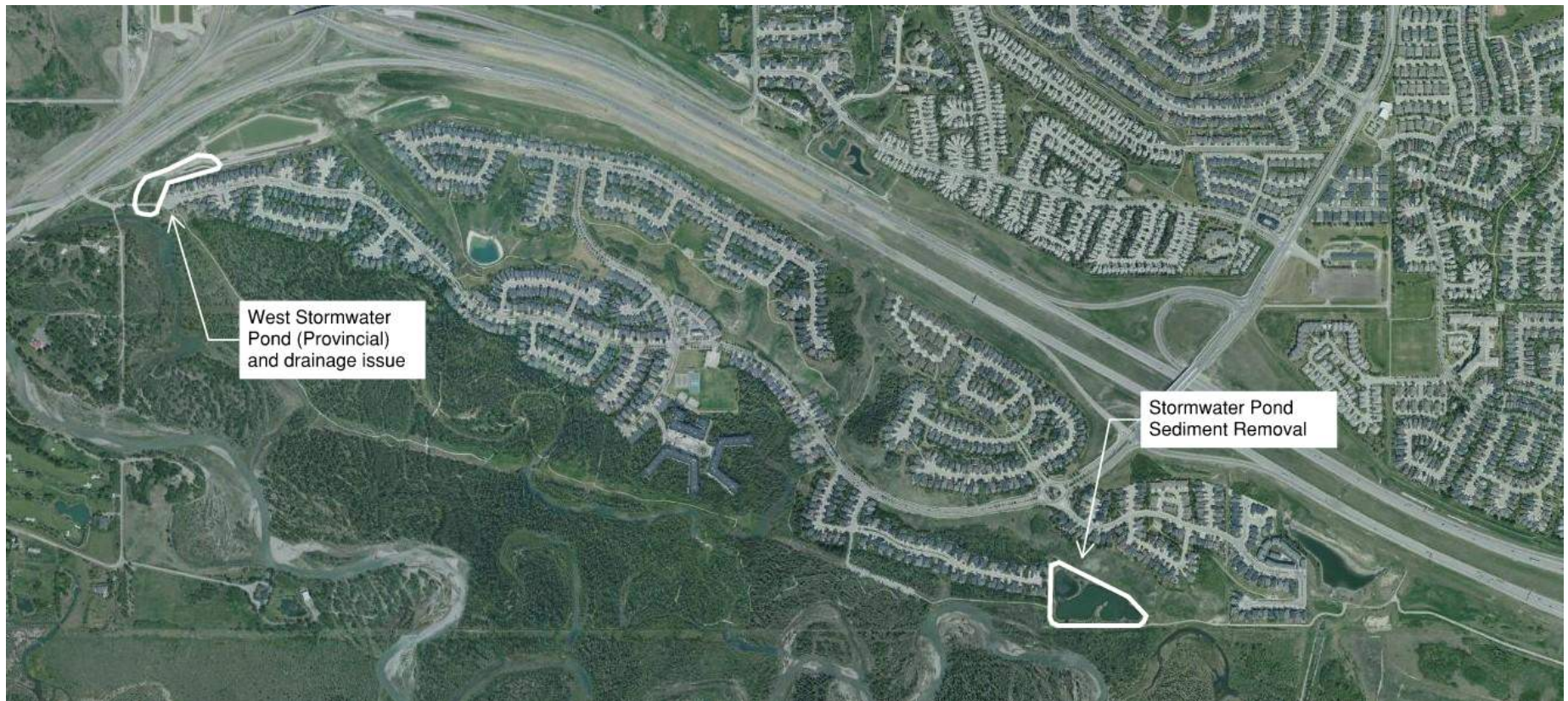


Next Steps



Stormwater Work in Discovery Ridge

- Stormwater pond sediment removal
 - Water Services Operations completing scheduled maintenance of sediment removal from the stormpond - Fall 2025/Winter 2026
- West stormwater pond (Provincially owned, South of Highway 8)
 - Water Services Operations responding to drainage issue



Q&A

Please provide questions or comments in the chat box.

Key Themes from Q&A

The information below are general themes that arose during the Q&A following the presentation and are not a transcript of what was discussed.

Project Communication

- Concern was raised about lack of input on the project to date and that decisions were made without community input.
- Concern was raised about the lack of communication between the work that occurred in spring 2024 and now.
- Requests were raised for more regular updates on the project.
- City committed to providing quarterly updates to the community

Desire to Preserve the Body of Water/Alternatives to Dam Removal

- Several residents expressed a desire to keep the trap low as it is, citing aesthetics, history in the community, and habitat.
- Questions were raised on why reinforcement or modification wasn't advanced.
- Requests for more information on alternatives to removal

Technical Reports & Transparency

- Multiple requests to share Stantec and Klohn Crippen Berger reports for the community to review on their own.
- Questions and concerns were raised about the recommendations from the reports and about withholding information.
- Confusion in referring to the body of water as a trap low or a stormpond.
- City committed to finding ways to share technical data responsibly and with the necessary context.

Previous Work on the Trap Low

- Concern with previous reclamation efforts being unsatisfactory (eg. with existing vegetation and weed growth from water lowering in 2024).
- Concern about whether future restoration will meet expectations.
- City committed to following up with partners in Parks regarding weed control.