

Subject: **Bylaw 1906 - Road Closure – Railway Ave within Ex-Hamlet of Allingham**
 Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024
 Prepared By: Deanna Keiver, Planning & Development Officer
 Presented By: Deanna Keiver
 Link to Strat Plan: Level of Service

<p>Background/ Proposal</p>	<p>The landowners, Ruben and Erin Scheele, have approached the County in their desire to purchase the undeveloped laneway referred to as Railway Avenue directly east of their property in the Ex-Hamlet of Allingham. By closing the undeveloped avenue, and ultimately purchasing the land, it would allow him to maintain the area and increase the size of his lots.</p> <p>Ruben and Erin Scheele are the owners of all the lots on the east side of Allingham (East of Park Avenue which include Lots 1 to 5, Block 1, Plan 3251EI, Plan 3251 OT (Centre Street) and Plan 931 0366, Block 1), for a total of 6 titles equaling 6.6 +/-acres. Should Council and subsequently the Minister of Transportation approve the closure, it would be required of the applicant to survey, purchase, and consolidate Railway Avenue into the adjacent lots. A consolidation of all 6 titles into one title will be required.</p> <p>The closure of Railway Avenue will not interfere with legal access to any other parcels. At one point in time, Railway Avenue was most likely an avenue and access to the 2 grain elevators – Federal and UGG in Allingham. The elevators were constructed in 1929 and dismantled by 1951. Remnants remain today on the adjacent lands which were once the Canadian Pacific Railway and now owned by the Alberta Trailnet Society.</p> <p>Railway Avenue today is a grassed area which presents more of a fire hazard than any physical access. An Encroachment Agreement is currently registered on title for a garage, which could be removed should the closure be approved. The closure of the avenue would add an additional 2.0 +/- acres to the applicants' total parcels.</p>
<p>Discussion/ Options/ Benefits/ Disadvantages:</p>	<p>Road Closures are governed by the Municipal Government Act Section 22, which states that a road must be closed by bylaw, must be advertised and must be approved by the Minister of Transportation prior to receiving 2nd Reading.</p> <p>Notices were sent to adjacent landowners within one mile and referral agencies. Referral agencies notified include internal Kneehill County Departments. This process is similar to a Public Hearing for a Land Use Bylaw Amendment. A person who claims to be deemed affected must be given an opportunity to be heard by Council.</p>