

Display boards set up around the room shared information on why the controlled blasting is needed, what to expect, safety and regulations and the locations of blasts to date. Project team attendees included representatives from Alberta Transportation, the Owner's Engineer (Associated Engineering, Tetra Tech and Russell PR) EllisDon, Sureway, Explotech and McCaw's Drilling and Blasting and all were available to answer questions and provide technical information.

The information session was advertised on three road signs in Cougar Ridge from December 30 to January 11 and approximately 1,100 invitations were delivered to homes west of 85 Street SW and north of Old Banff Coach Road SW on January 2 and 3. The information session details were posted to the project website (westringroad.ca) on December 29.

Comment Summary

One comment form was completed and 23 comments were posted to the What to Expect display boards on sticky notes. Attendees expressed concern over a lack of timely communication regarding blasting information and data, and some would like to be notified via text, email or push notification prior to each blast. Other attendees had questions about the affected area, the force of the blasts, liquefaction, home insurance, rodents, and the placement of retaining fences. The following is a verbatim transcription of the comments/questions received:

- Why can't an email or text go out before a blast?
- Why is coms not shared?
- How will it be shared?
- Will data be shared?
- Why was com from last time not shared?
- Timeliness of sharing
- How will this feedback be shared?
- Apparently 1 per day @ 4 pm until July
- Using the Richter Scale, what is the force?
- Has the soil in the affected area been tested to ensure there will be zero liquefaction?
- No advance notice to the school?
- What does this do to my house insurance?
- What is the equivalent wind force of the airwaves?
- As others have said, no advance communication occurred. Imagine this is because the affected area was underestimated?
- What is the now known boundary of the affected area?
- CONCERNS [posted under dust and air quality]
- Would be helpful to have partnership with residents about placement of retaining fences in relation to homes
- How do you not communicate with stakeholders?
- Rodent issue and damage?
- Full access to blasting data
- Notification process of blasting → text? One point of contact
- SMS notification
- Communication to all residents. How is this going to improve?