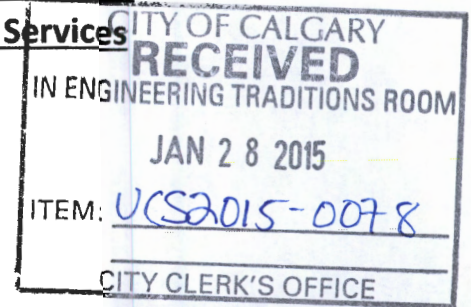


Drainage, Waster-Water and Water Utility By-Law Amendments

January 28th, 2015 Committee – Utilities and Corporate Services

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Concerns with the Report in Point Form

Drainage:

Attachment 1 p. 1

a. Addition of 'Foundation Drainage.' Applied to who, residential and business?

**b. New section 7 on point 5 – written permission – impounded water definition
eg. Hamptons in High River : residents sealed out, Terra-Vita contracted,
explosion now of mould problems**

**c. P. 2 New Section 8; Powers of Director – temporarily or permanently
Prohibited materials includes hottub water.**

**Erosion costs on City property a higher priority that preservation of private
dwelling or business. Nature, in Mr. River is allowed to be highly indiscriminate
in damage. Citizens are regarded on lower value scale.**

**Rivers and City property, a corporate entity set up to serve citiznes are being
given a higher value that the lives and welfare of those people residing in
business and homes.**

d. 8. Section 10 – Foundation Drainage added

**There is conflict with drainage requirements of Complete Streets, leave natural
drainage, now retain natural at your damage and expense.**

**e. Point 9. Restriction of access does not allow for citizen rescue of children, etc.
in distress.**

**f. P. 4 New section 19: An onerous requirement for all costs without appeal
and without choice of materials and contractor?**

**Many people do not realize that a distinct level of government develops almost
without scrutiny that is government by regulation. It functions as law maker,
though unelected, its rules and regulations have the force of law. It functions as
both judge and jury in cases involving its own rules. The accumulation of
legislative, executive, and judicial power in the same hands can add up to
another definition of tyranny.**

Does the citizen benefit from all of this? More often lawyers do, expert consultants on environmental law, and special interests in whose direction the regulations are slanted.

In the Melbourne Triple Bottom Line goals and Imagine Calgary 100 the fastest growing regulatory costs are in the area of environmental protection.

Some egregious examples from the past;

- a. Three Billion dollars spent to protect housewives from labels that proclaim that spaghetti sauce is 'fresh.'**
- b. The rehabilitation of 222 sea otters was mandated after the Exxon Valdez oil spill was mandated at the cost of more than \$80,000 per animal... while at the same time a population of 500 otters within Valdez harbour were untouched, and thousands of others occupied Alaskan waters.**
- c. The Stevens Kangaroo rat received exclusive rights to land worth 100 million (and the rats did not even ask for it!)**

Overall, the growth of municipal government regulation, can be a prime cause of the shrinking of the private economy. Excessive regulation all with it's increase in bureaucracy to oversee it, forces private firms to increase staffing, work longer hours, and add to mail, paperwork and communications costs.

The misallocation of time from productive work or research for government paperwork can boggle the mind. Somehow, more attention needs to be given to the burdens that regulation put on private business, the enterprise that generates Calgary's wealth.

Perhaps it would help if more of the lawmakers and regulation writers had experience in trying to make a living in the private economy.

A sadder, wiser Senator George McGovern, after going through bankruptcy, faced the true cost of all those federal EPA regulations he helped to pass.

Quote: " I wish' he said, " that during the years I was in public office I had had this firsthand experience about the difficulties business people face every day. That knowledge would have made me a better US Senator.... The concept that eludes legislators is: Can we make consumers pay the higher prices for the

increased operating costs that accompany public regulation and government reporting requirements with reams of red tape.

By passing overly complex and demanding WasteWater and Drainage regulations and fines, it will inevitably mean that fewer funds will be available to provide other City services, with Councillors having fewer and fewer freedoms in budgeting.

When does environmental regulation and community engineering such as Complete Streets become too expensive? And even too frivolous? Every one wants to avoid unnecessary pollution... but the standards set in the Drainage and Waste-Water bylaws must be reasonable and achievable.

The policies and regulations must be practical without consuming so high a portion of the taxpayer's disposable income.

Any other path leads to pervasive poverty – and poverty is truly the ultimate pollution, physically and morally. Wealth generation leads to health and capacity to absorb emergencies. Excessive regulation in this area can compromise the public health and safety that these regulations are supposedly designed to protect.

The by-laws around Drainage and Waste Water have so many objectives, some of which are mutually exclusive..ie laws set up to protect citizens end up bankrupting and driving them from their homes in disasters. Attachment 6:1 page 1.

TRIAGE: A Triage of objectives must be established that favors citizens business and homes over natural disasters damaging secondary City assets that are not essential to City functioning.