



Calgary Planning Commission

Mandate and Composition

<p>Mandate</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To advise and assist Council and co-ordinate the activities of various Departments & agencies of The City with regard to the planning of orderly and economical development and maintaining and improving the quality of the physical environment for human settlement within the City, including but not limited to the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) review and approval of Outline Plans; (ii) review and approval of Tentative Plans not within the scope of section 5(a) (Bylaw 28P95); (iii) advising Council on land use matters; (iv) review and make recommendations on municipal projects referred to it; and (v) review and approval of development permit applications as a Development Authority pursuant to The Development Authority Bylaw; (vi) any other planning matter referred to it. 2. To perform those administrative functions as delegated to it by Council pursuant to the Municipal Government Act; and 3. To perform on behalf of Council such functions as Council may require.
<p>Composition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor • 2 Members of Council - may not be a member of SDAB • 6 Citizens* • 2 Employees of the City, each of whom must be a General Manager or a Director <p>*Four of the six citizen positions may be selected from citizens with expertise in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architecture • Engineering • Home Building • Landscape Architecture • Real Estate Development • Real Estate and/or Planning Law • Urban Design • Urban Planning <p>Traditionally, Non-Binding nominations are solicited from professional organizations.</p>

Calgary Planning Commission

Introduction

Calgary Planning Commission (CPC) provides guidance on important planning matters for the future of our city. Based on a significant history of 108 years, today's commission is comprised of volunteer members representing planning and development professionals, the development and building industry, citizens at large, as well as City Council and administration. The committee is appointed annually by Council.

The Calgary Planning Commission provides technical reviews and makes recommendations to Council on land use and planning items, and makes decisions as the approving authority on major subdivision and development proposals. The Commission also responds to any planning-related requests from Council.

Meetings of the Calgary Planning Commission are held in public but they are not "public hearings". Input from other stakeholders on planning matters, such as the Urban Design Review Panel, community associations or external agencies, are provided through administrative reports to the Commission.

Calgary Planning Commission Membership

Authorized by Council Bylaw 28P95 (as amended) Calgary Planning Commission consists of:

6 Citizen members

At least one of which is a Citizen at Large

The remaining Citizen members should be selected from the following areas of expertise or other areas as Council deems appropriate: Urban Planning, Urban Design, Real Estate Development, Landscape Architecture, Home Building, Architecture

2 Members of Council

2 members of Administration, either General Managers or Directors, typically of Planning and Transportation

The Mayor

Calgary Planning Commission Members are required to have a commitment to making Calgary the best it can be for its citizens, a willingness to advise and assist Council in planning high quality communities, a strong public service orientation and integrity and high ethical standards. The citizen representatives on Calgary Planning Commission volunteer their time for meetings and the review of sometimes significant agendas.

2017 and 2018 at a glance

	2017	2018
<i>Meetings</i>	24	23
<i>Reports</i>	462	337
<i>Recommendations to Council</i>	398	277
<i>Development Permit decisions</i>	23	21
<i>Outline Plan decisions</i>	22	24



Although it is difficult to single out specific proposals considered by CPC, some of the highlights from 2017 and 2018 include the Calgary Cancer Centre, mixed use redevelopments for shopping centres in Dalhousie and Oakridge, plans for International Avenue and the Chinook Station area, several Main Streets implementation proposals, plans for new communities and neighbourhoods in Providence, Livingston and Haskayne, the relocation of a large meat processing facility, and a Student Residence building in the Banff Trail Station area.

While CPC agendas prior to the secondary suite reform included a significant number of individual land use changes to allow for suites, Commission is currently observing an increasing number of proposals for rowhouse developments in established areas of the city.

CPC Improvement Initiatives

In the last three years a number of initiatives, projects, and ongoing efforts have been underway to make sure that Calgary Planning Commission is supported by effective processes, efficient meeting and agenda management, and sound planning and urban design input for quality decisions. These include:

- Transition to City Clerks managing meetings and procedures of CPC
- Schedule of CPC meetings aligned with other Council and committee schedules
- Inclusion of a consent agenda
- Revised Urban Design Review Panel mandate and improved urban design review
- Verbal updates on significant items to allow for early CPC input
- Providing comments on planning policy to Council through the SPC on Planning & Urban Development
- Alignment of CPC reports with Council report format and ongoing content improvements
- CPC bus tour of key development sites in October 2018
- Workshops on topics such as baseline engagement and indigenous policy

2019 Focus

CPC members acknowledge that some of the recent changes to processes and procedures come with unanticipated challenges that will require ongoing piloting and course correction of new approaches. While there is a strong desire of CPC to increase opportunities for discussions, information sharing and strategic meetings outside of the regular commission meetings, this needs to be balanced with other commitments and priorities especially of the citizen members.

Focus areas for improvements in 2019 come from input of CPC members, Councillors, and build on other continuous improvement initiatives, including but not limited to:

- Improving the way CPC members' individual comments are captured to ensure that this input is clearly communicated to Council to help inform decision making
- Finding innovative ways of engaging CPC members to get their input into planning policy work
- Exploring the use of an Indigenous Land Acknowledgment as part of their processes
- Exploring informal sessions with Councillors to allow for discussions and feedback
- Looking at board governance related activities, e.g. an onboarding program, annual strategic meetings, learning and information sharing
- Updating the CPC bylaw, as required
- Supporting the work of CPC through increased use and provision of technology