

November 28, 2019

To: Office of the Mayor  
Members of Council

From: Kyle Ripley, Director, Calgary Parks

**Re: Enhanced Landscape Maintenance**

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This memo provides details around community-supported enhanced maintenance programs in response to a question that Councillor Magliocca posed during Council's 2020 budget deliberations on 2019 November 26.

Calgary Parks has offered a process for communities to request enhanced landscape maintenance in their parks and green spaces for over twenty years (Enhanced Landscape Maintenance or ELM program). The additional funds used to accomplish this can be generated through a Special Tax Levy (collected by The City) or through an encumbrance or caveat on property title and privately collected by a homeowners' association. Enrolment in the ELM program is voluntary and established at the request of an organized community group such as a community association or a homeowner/resident association.

Through this program, interested communities can enter into an agreement with The City to provide additional landscape maintenance and/or snow removal in their community. The City works with each community to identify the scope and terms of these legal agreements (ie: areas of enhanced mowing, trimming, garbage removal, and pathway clearing). There are currently 25 communities who participate in the ELM program and 2 communities who participate in additional pathway snow removal.

On occasion, we hear from community associations or resident associations that are interested in The City simply forwarding our maintenance budget for snow and ice control (SNIC) to them so they can provide the services on our behalf. This is not possible given our need to ensure a consistent and transparent procurement process, uphold contract value, comply with various trade agreements, and protect City assets. These communities are encouraged to pursue any additional desired snow clearing through the ELM program and associated agreements.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Ripley".

Kyle Ripley  
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cc: Laura Kennedy, City Clerks  
Administrative Leadership Team