



Roadside Naturalization Pilot Project: Application to the Council Innovation Fund

Presentation to Priorities & Finance Committee, Jan. 21, 2020

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What is naturalization?

Restoration of an area of past disturbance using a combination of native plants and desirable cultivated plants to create a low maintenance landscape that provides some biodiversity and other ecosystem services



Why the buzz, where else?

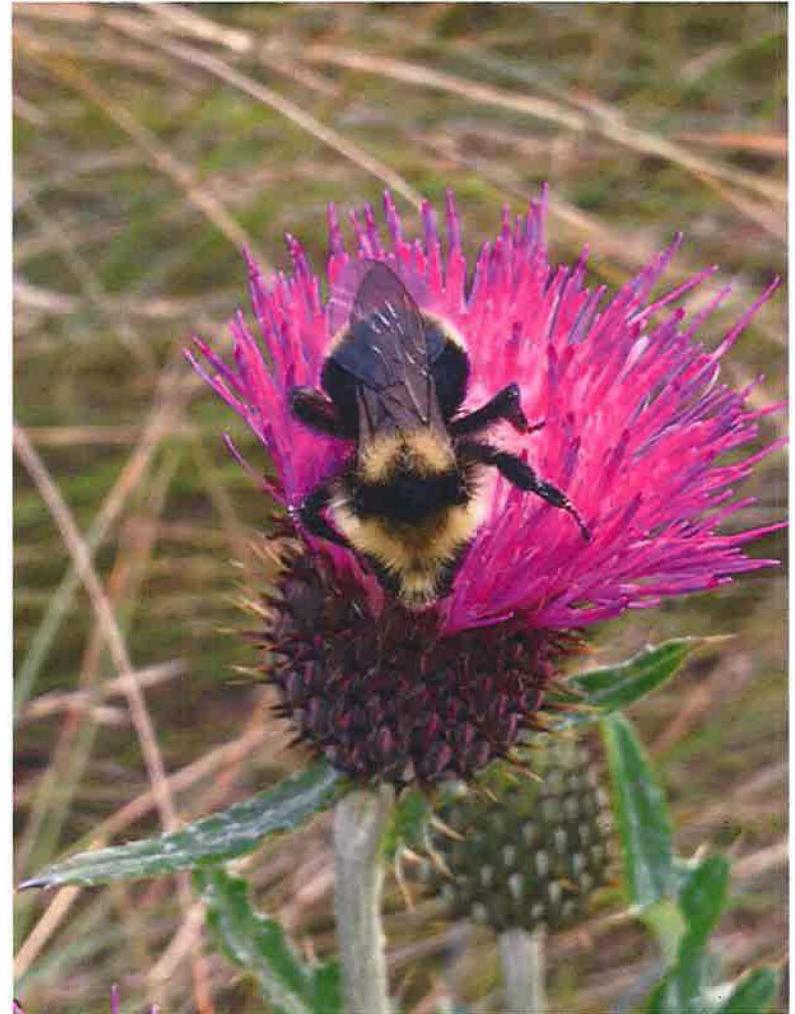
Awareness of loss of biodiversity and pressures on pollinators

Conservation, restoration and enhancement of habitats in support of pollinator biodiversity

Roadsides present vast potential for increased habitat value

- Europe
- USA
- Canada

“Reduced maintenance costs”





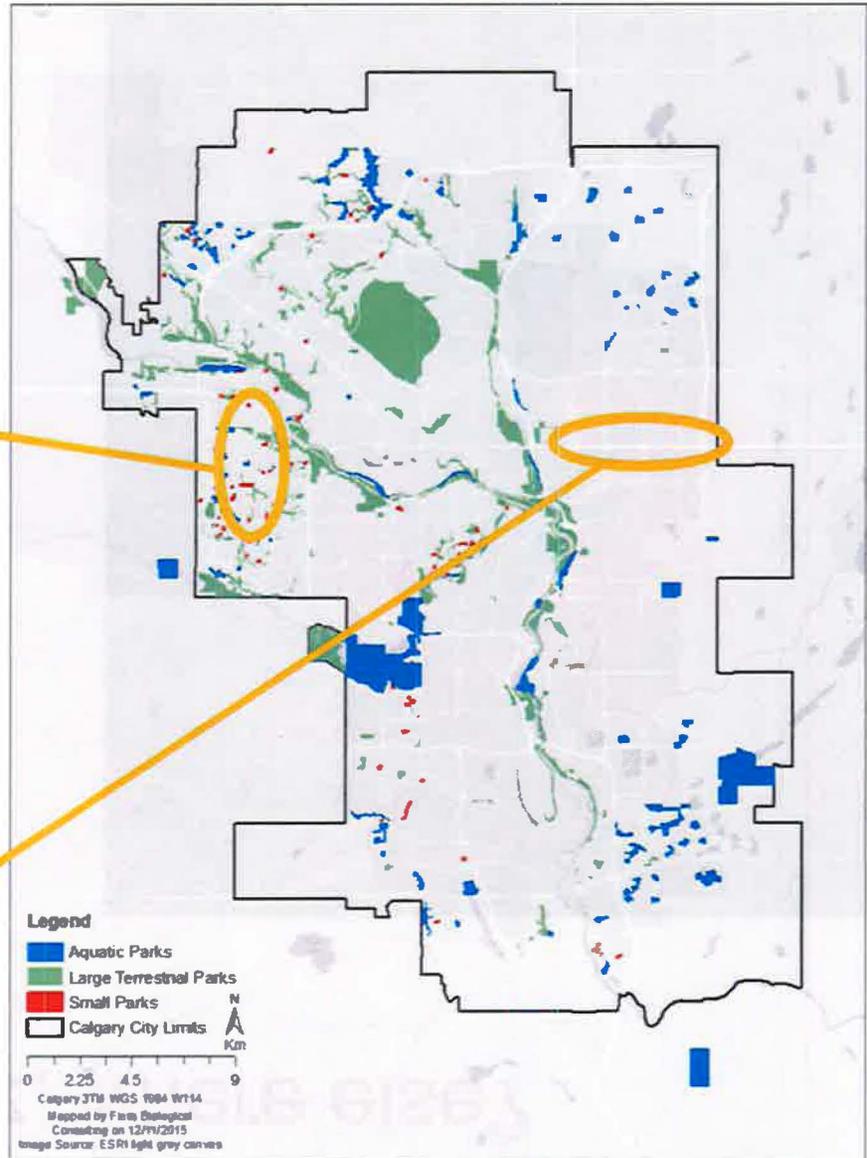
Two proposed treatment areas



Wards 6 & 8



Wards 5 & 10



Examples of low maintenance landscapes





Alignment and why now?

Advances Council priorities:

- A healthy and green city
- A city that moves
- Inspiring neighbourhoods
- A well run city
- A prosperous city

Aligned with Council-approved policies and plans

Business-minded and customer-centric.

Calgary is a Bee City



COSEWIC Assessment and Status Report

on the

Gypsy Cuckoo Bumble Bee *Bombus bohemicus*

in Canada



ENDANGERED
2014

COSEWIC
Committee on the Status
of Endangered Wildlife
in Canada



COSEPAC
Comité sur la situation
des espèces en péril
au Canada



Measure	Target
Financial: Improved business case information	100% of costs tracked
Ecological: Per cent increase in naturalized open space city-wide	5%
Social: Number of Calgarians engaged in the pilot subject matter	Increased understanding





ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the Priorities and Finance Committee recommend Council approve this application for the Council Innovation Fund for the Roadside Naturalization Pilot Project in the amount of \$800,000;
2. That Administration engage with institutions, industry stakeholders and philanthropic groups to leverage available private contributions for this project;
3. That the Priorities and Finance Committee recommend Council direct Administration to report back to PFC on the outcomes of this project no later than Q4 2022.