

# The City of Calgary's Principal Corporate Risks

The most strategic risks that could impact The City's ability to achieve its results and deliver services to citizens (i.e. the Principal Corporate Risks (PCRs)) are reviewed and discussed at least twice per year by the Administrative Leadership Team (ALT).

The PCRs were most recently reviewed and approved by the ALT on 2019 December 10. Since the 2019 Mid-Year Risk Report to the Audit Committee (AC2019-0356), there have been some changes to the descriptions of the PCRs, the majority of which are minor. The more significant of these changes are:

- Environmental Risk broadened to include the impact of climate change.
- Financial Risk updated to be more specific about funding constraints and impact on critical infrastructure.
- Health & Safety Risk broadened to include workforce culture, organizational resilience and employee health, safety and well-being.
- Partnership Risk addition of the focus on Civic Partners and Community Associations and Social Recreation Organizations with a Lease or License of Occupation.
- Social Impact Risk broadened to reflect the shared responsibility between the government and the community for social outcomes, pressure on The City's capacity to respond to diverse needs of Calgarians, and the negative impacts on social well-being.
- Technology Risk updated to include the definition of vulnerabilities.

The 17 Principal Corporate Risks are shown below in alphabetical order along with the respective risk owner.

Business Continuity Risk Owner: General Manager, Community Services

An interruption to an essential service provided to Calgarians as a result of a vulnerability being exposed to a natural, technological, or human-induced hazard.

## Capacity for Change Risk Owner: City Manager

Increasing velocity, pace and quantity of change in the natural, social, economic and political environment, combined with limited flexibility in the organization to respond contributes to reduced capacity, preparation and experience required to implement new initiatives and adapt to changing priorities.

**Economic Risk** Owner: City Manager (Note: Owner was changed since the 2019 Mid-Year Risk Review) Citizens and the business community face ongoing pressure due to the volatility of local and regional economies. This risk can impact demands for municipal services (including social supports), municipal revenue, and The City's priorities.

**Environmental Risk** Owner: General Manager, Utilities & Environmental Protection

Climatic changes may cause disruptions to operations and service delivery as well as impacts to infrastructure, the environment, and Calgary's citizens. The Climate Resilience Strategy aims to maximize Calgary's resilience in the context of a changing climate.



#### Financial Risk Owner: Chief Financial Officer

Funding constraints (lower general revenues, franchise fees and/or higher expenses) and overreliance on debt financing may lead to an inappropriate financing structure and negatively impact service delivery, the ability to maintain critical infrastructure and adapt to growth.

# **Growth Risk** Owner: General Manager, Planning & Development

While growth carries a number of economic and social benefits, it is also a significant risk for The City because infrastructure and services need to be in place timed with demand. This means The City must anticipate both the level and spatial pattern of growth. The risks of ineffective growth planning are financial and reputational which can impact The City's capacity to deliver and provide infrastructure and services that meet city-wide demands.

**Health & Safety Risk** *Owner: General Manager, Utilities & Environmental Protection*Workforce culture, organizational resilience, and employee health, safety and well-being are affected by internal factors such as the pace/amount of organizational change, as well as external factors such as Calgary's economic environment and population health.

## Infrastructure Management Risk Owner: General Manager, Transportation

The City owns and operates public infrastructure systems such as water service, storm and sanitary sewers, roads, sidewalks, pathways, bridges and other structures and buildings. The City is exposed to the risk of these assets failing as they age, particularly if lifecycle maintenance is not prioritized appropriately.

## Legal & Compliance Risk Owner: City Solicitor and General Counsel

Law provides Legal Counsel and Advocacy (LCA) services to the Mayor and Council, City Manager, General Managers, Directors and employees of every business unit at The City. Advice is not always sought in sufficient time to allow a strategy to be developed or action to be taken on a proactive basis, resulting in the corporation having to react to issues or lawsuits. This can impair the corporation's ability to complete projects and conclude transactions on time, on budget and within scope, and may result in financial losses or unnecessary business, legal, financial or reputational risk for The City.

### **Operations, Process Risk** Owner: Chief Financial Officer

Failure to ensure appropriate processes are in place to manage the complexity of operations.

## Partnership Risk (Civic Partners) Owner: General Manager, Community Services

Counterparty risk arising from City partners unable to deliver services. This analysis focuses on Civic Partners, and Community Associations and Social Recreation Organizations with a Lease or License of Occupation. The health and sustainability of these partners impacts delivery of services and programs to Calgarians and the management and operation of City-owned assets.

# Political Risk Owner: City Manager

Changing priorities or actions of municipal, regional, or other orders of government paired with rapid changes in the natural, social or economic environment could result in funding challenges that may adversely impact The City's ability to deliver on citizen expectations.

#### **Reputation Risk** Owner: Director, Customer Service & Communications

Reputation risk is damage to the image of The City or negative perceptions by citizens or stakeholders as a result of actions of elected officials or City employees. This risk can threaten The City's ability to maintain positive and productive relationships with citizens, businesses, partners and the ability to achieve its corporate objectives.



Security Risk Owner: City Solicitor and General Counsel

A violent attack on or in City space could result in loss of life, serious injury as well as halting critical service delivery.

Social Impact Risk Owner: General Manager, Community Services

Changing social conditions, and the model of shared responsibility between government and community for social outcomes puts pressure on The City's capacity to respond to the diverse needs of Calgarians with preventive programs and services. This risk can have negative impacts on the social wellbeing of citizens and result in The City investing in more costly downstream interventions.

**Talent Management & Workforce Planning Vulnerability Risk** Owner: Chief Human Resources Officer Inability to attract, develop, engage and retain key talent and knowledge to meet current and future business needs.

**Technology Risk** Owner: Chief Information Technology Officer

Vulnerabilities are any weaknesses identified in The City's information technology environment that may leave information and technology assets exposed to a potential threat through malicious emails, websites, viruses, data breaches and information disclosures. These threats can put The City at risk for disruption to services, information theft or loss, malicious programs being uploaded, or identity theft.