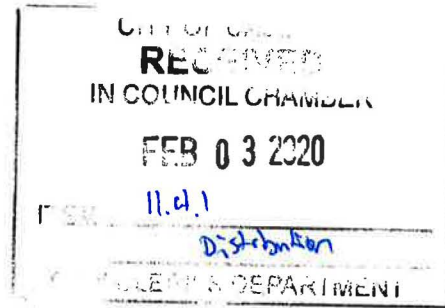


January 20, 2020

Druh Farrell
Druh Farrell – Ward 7 Councillor
Office of the Councillors
PO Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2M5



Subject: Bylaw Setback Reform Notice of Motion

Dear Councillor Farrell,

I am writing on behalf of O2 Planning + Design in support of your proposed notice of motion that directs administration to explore a better use of the road right-of-way bylaw setback area.

As urban planners, urban designers and landscape architects, O2 Planning + Design works with private and public sector clients with the pursuit of improving Calgary's public realm. Through our work on development applications, we are often challenged by the existing structure of the bylaw setback rules and the limitations that the rules put on creating high quality streetscapes and public realm.

As the road right-of-way bylaw setback rule was initially intended for preserving space for future road widening to accommodate additional vehicle travel lanes, we believe that these setbacks need to be revisited. It is unlikely that additional space for vehicles will be required on the streets that the bylaw setbacks are applied to. We believe that the City should assess whether the bylaw setback allowances can be removed, reduced or a mechanism be put in place that would allow for the better use of the setback area than is currently occurring. We support your proposed notice of motion because it addresses our concerns.

We hope that your notice of motion is passed by Council. If approved, members of our practice would be happy to work with your office and administration to provide an industry perspective as the recommendations in the notice of motion are being worked on.

Sincerely,

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

Brian Horton
Principal
O2 Planning + Design

