

# **Roadside Naturalization Pilot Project: Application to the Council Innovation Fund**

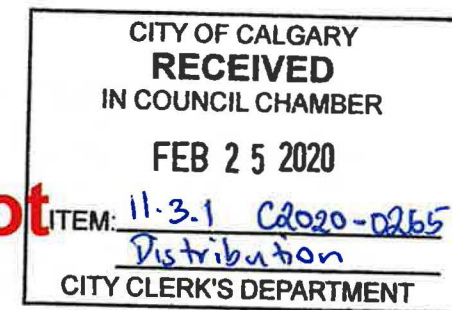
Presentation to Council, February 24, 2020

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## Overview of the proposed pilot



**Budget:** \$450,000

**Timeline:** 3 years, with regular reporting on phased ROI

**Location:** 16<sup>th</sup> Ave NE (Ward 10) primary treatment area

**Engage:**

- Private sector - innovative landscaping methods
- Developers and CPAG – re: new development
- Public – outreach, and pollinator project options
- Public institutions – monitoring, adaptive mgmt

**Assess:** Passive naturalized areas city-wide (ROI year 1),  
before/after pilot treatments (ROI years 2+)

**Success:**

- ↑ business case data
- ↑ public and stakeholder engagement
- 1% restored open space



## Pilot project elements

### Pilot primary treatment area

 16<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, 36 - 68 St


### Pilot coordination area

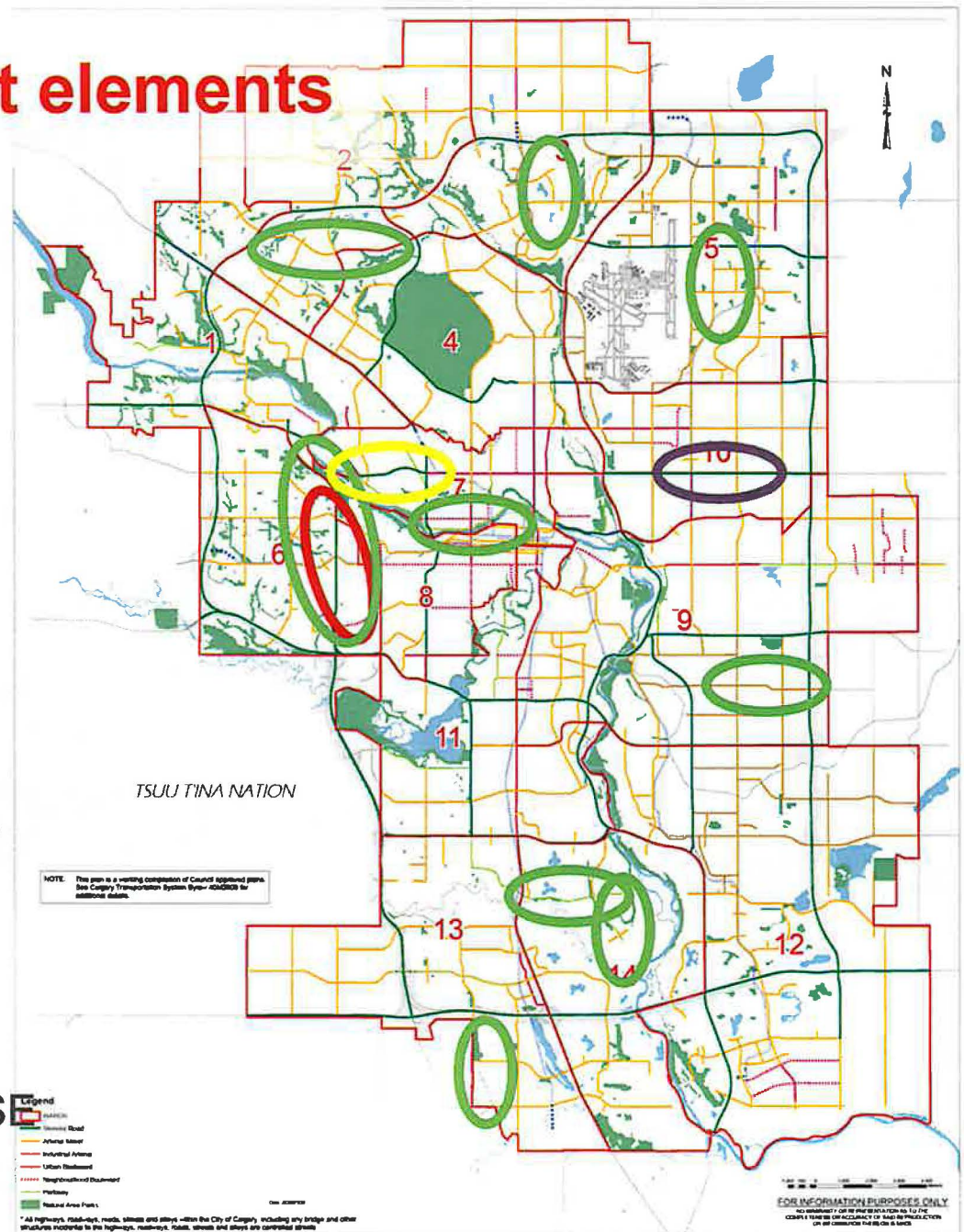
 "Future of 16<sup>th</sup> Ave NW"

### Complementary planting area

 Sarcee Tr. SW

### Related assessment areas

- 
- Country Hills Blvd NW
  - Coventry Hills Blvd NW
  - Memorial Dr. NW
  - Metis Trail NE
  - 61 Ave SE
  - Bow Bottom Trail SE
  - Canyon Meadows Dr. SE
  - Spruce Meadows Way
  - Sarcee Trail SW



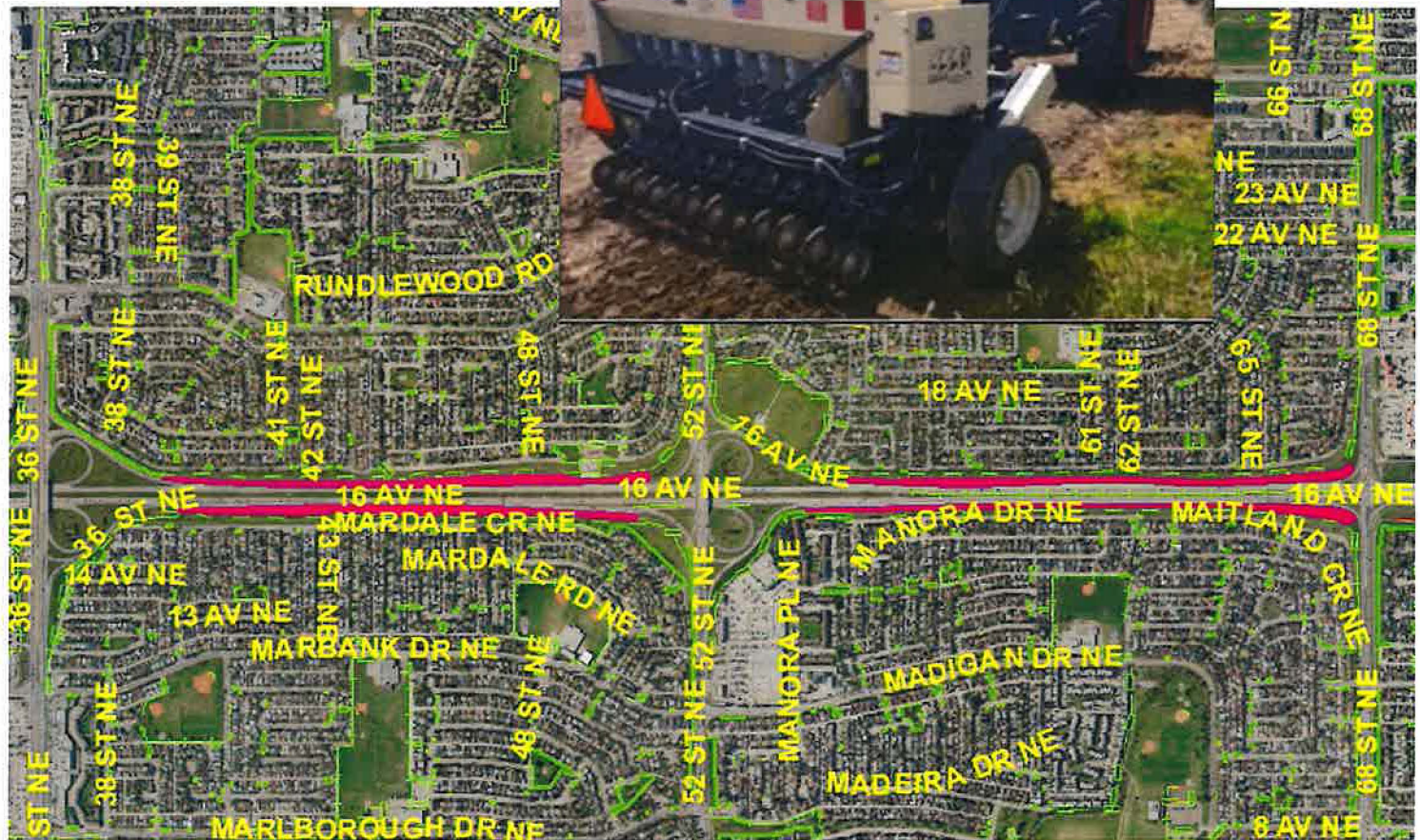


## Primary treatment area: 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE

Ward 10

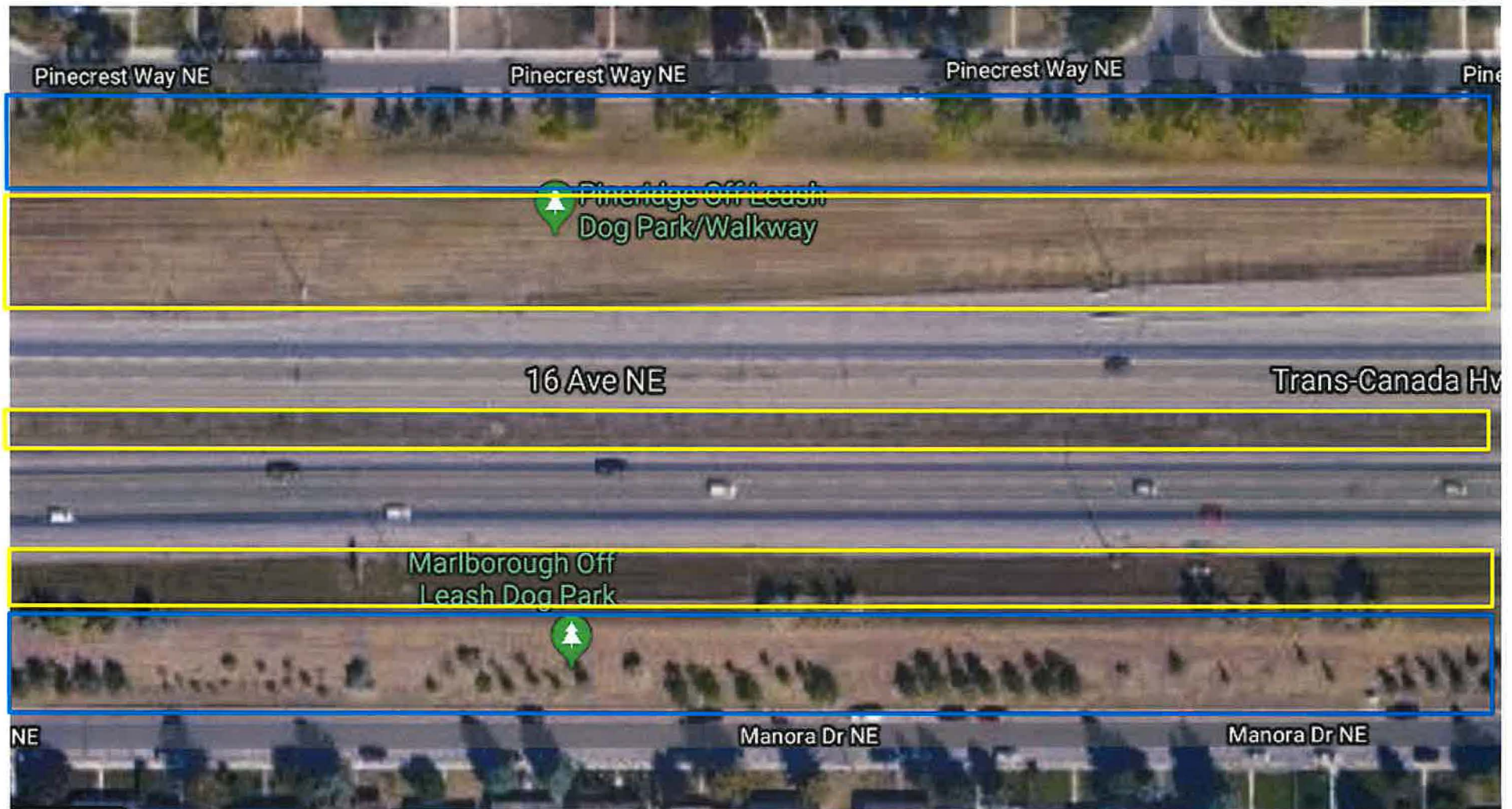
10 ha total,  
both sides  
of 16<sup>th</sup> Ave  
up to fence  
on berm top

RFI, RFP:  
Seed with  
desirable  
grasses,  
wildflowers





## Create opportunities for partnership



 Turfgrass conversion  Option for community pollinator patches



# Inform the design of “Complete Streets”



**“The Future of 16<sup>th</sup> Ave NW” functional planning 2020-2021**





## Assess existing 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



Well aligned with Council-approved policies and plans, enables action

Potential \$8M cost savings over 10 years

Calgary is a Bee City





## **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:**

### **That Council:**

- 1. Approve this application to the Council Innovation Fund for the Roadside Naturalization Pilot Project in the amount of \$450,000;**
- 2. Direct Administration to engage with private sector and philanthropic groups to leverage available private contributions for this project;**
- 3. Direct Administration to partner with public institutions to optimize the assessment and monitoring program elements of this project; and**
- 4. Direct Administration to report back to the Priorities and Finance Committee on the outcomes of this project no later than Q2 2023, with interim reports on project progress and return-on-investment as information becomes available.**