

Chief Financial Officer's Report to
Priorities and Finance Committee
2020 March 10

ISC: UNRESTRICTED
PFC2020-0158

2019 Year-End Accountability Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes how The City made life better for Calgarians in 2019. It provides details of The City's performance in relation to the commitments made in the adjusted One Calgary 2019-2022 Service Plans and Budgets. Overall, The City is meeting those commitments. As the city's economy continues to grow slowly, City Administration is committed to delivering the services that Calgarians value at a reasonable cost. This year The City won 32 awards from external organizations and continued to cut costs while limiting the harm arising from those tough choices.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

The Priorities and Finance Committee recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for the Corporate Record and discussion.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRIORITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, 2020 MARCH 10:

That Council receive this Report for the Corporate Record and discussion.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

The Multi-Year Business Planning and Budgeting Policy (CFO004) states that Administration will provide mid-year and year-end reports to the Priorities and Finance Committee to inform Council about performance against approved plans and budgets. On 2019 July 22, through consideration of Report C2019-0901 *Proposed 2019 Budget Reductions*, Council directed Administration to combine the 2019 Mid-Year Accountability Report into the 2019 Year-End Accountability Report.

BACKGROUND

In exercising taxation power there is an accompanying responsibility to be open and forthright with how the proceeds have been used. Further, the ability to improve our services rests on understanding where we are, where we are going, and where we need to get better. The combination of our commitment to transparency and our drive to continuously improve and deliver more value is why this report is an important one for Council and Administration. Accountability reports ensure that Administration regularly demonstrates value and remains accountable to Council and citizens. They do so by providing detailed information on the status of Citizen Priorities, approved performance measures and The City's financial situation.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

The Year End Accountability Report (Attachment 1) provides high level updates on the status of: Citizen Priorities, corporate performance, capital and operating budgets and debt. Supplemental information, available online at calgary.ca provides: (1) a service by service update including performance measure and budget updates compared to the approved Service Plans and Budgets; (2) an update on each of 622 strategies included in the Service Plans and Budgets; and, (3) a list of the external awards won by The City in 2019.

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Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

All City departments collaborated to produce this Report.

Strategic Alignment

Accountability reporting assists the City Manager in accomplishing Goal 1 of the City Manager Performance Development Plan by helping to “Communicate clearly and openly, and share information through regular updates and reporting”. The report also contributes to Goals 5 and 6 by showing progress on the implementation of the Service Plans and Budgets and communicating the value of municipal government.

This report complements The City of Calgary 2019 Annual Report, which will be published in April and provides The City’s audited consolidated financial statements, detailed financial information in compliance with public sector accounting standards and Government Finance Officers Association best practices.

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

The 2019 Year-End Accountability Report provides details of The City’s accomplishments and challenges in 2019, including social, environmental and economic impacts

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

No budget impacts as a result of this report.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

No budget impacts as a result of this report.

Risk Assessment

The July 2019 reductions and the 2020 budget adjustments in November increased The City’s risk exposure over the year, including impacts on The City’s financial risk, reputational risk and infrastructure management risk. These risks are part of the five priority risks for 2020 that The City is actively monitoring and managing as reported bi-annually to Audit Committee and then to Council.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Attachment 1 – 2019 Year End-Accountability Report