

The logo for the City of Calgary, featuring the word "Calgary" in white text on a red rectangular background.A nighttime photograph of the Calgary Clock Tower, illuminated with warm lights. The tower has two visible clock faces. In the background, other city buildings and a street lamp are visible against a dark sky.

Administration Follow-up from Stakeholder Panel Discussion on COVID-19 Impacts and Remote Engagement

PUD2020-0591

June 3, 2020



Background

- February 2020 City Planning & Policy Workplan
- March 15 2020 State of Local Emergency
- May 6 2020 PUD meeting *Stakeholder Panel Discussion on COVID-19 Impacts and Remote Engagement*



Panel members

- **Derek Heric** – Engage Resource Unit Leader, City of Calgary
- **Fabian Neuhaus** – School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape, U of C
- **Chris Ollenberger** – Quantum Place - NAIOP Calgary
- **Jessica Revington** – outgoing Students Union President, U of C
- **Gary Sarohia** – Richmond Knob-Hill Community Association
- **Leslie Evans** – Federation of Calgary Communities
- **Cal Schuler** – The City's Advisory Committee on Accessibility
- **Dave White** – Civic Works – planning consultant
- **Ali McMillan** – Bridgeland Riverside Community Association



Purpose of Panel Discussion

- Bolster our understanding of **key concerns of our stakeholders**
- Better understand **readiness to participate** in planning and building the city together at this time
- How can we take what we are learning during the pandemic and inform **new ways of participating in city building**



What We Heard

- Bolster our understanding of **key concerns of our stakeholders**

Key findings & connections



Barriers and limitations with remote engagement (access, digital literacy, inclusivity)

Meaningful participation during a pandemic

Lack of 'human element' with remote engagement

Difficult time for citizens during pandemic

Participant confidence and trust

Limitations for two-way dialogue



What We Heard

- Better understand **readiness to participate** in planning and building the city together at this time

Balance feedback 

Planning work may not be considered a priority for stakeholders during crisis of pandemic

Planning work remains important during this time to support construction industry, economy, and community certainty



What We Heard

- How can we take what we are learning during the pandemic and inform **new ways of participating in city building**

Initial Ideas 

Better use of digital data

Explore grassroots tactics

Create online “Idea Exchange” forum

How could outreach be done differently?

Continue the discussion

Administration's Considerations based on What We Heard report





Next Steps

Public engagement during pandemic environment

Continue applying feedback to new ideas/approaches for remote engagement

Public engagement post-pandemic environment

Need to be prepared for a 'new normal' environment following pandemic

Public meetings & public hearings

Virtual Committee & Council meetings are effective and allow for meaningful public participation

Recommendation

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

That the SPC on Planning and Urban Development receive the information contained in this report for the corporate record.



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