

Background

Context

Water Resources has developed two watershed management plans that protect our waterways and watershed: the Source Water Protection Plan (2018) and the Riparian Action Program (2017). Both plans were created through extensive stakeholder consultation and robust science and technical input. Since completion, the Water Utility has been implementing key actions outlined in both plans to achieve our integrated watershed management goals.

The Source Water Protection Plan identifies actions to protect source water quality upstream of Calgary's two water treatment plants. The specific goals of the Plan are to:

- Protect the source watershed with **improved land use planning**;
- **Promote innovation in stormwater** management to protect source water quality;
- **Leverage key partnerships** for wildfire management, emergency response and protecting vulnerable source watershed lands; and
- Involve the community through **education and research**.

The Riparian Action Program protects and restores riparian areas within Calgary by identifying specific actions to achieve the following three outcomes.

- Further loss of riparian areas is minimized through **land use planning**.
- City-wide **riparian health** is improved through bioengineering and riparian restoration projects.
- Citizens and riparian landowners value riparian areas through **education and outreach**.

The Source Water Protection Plan (2018) and the Riparian Action Program (2017) are two key implementation plans under the new Policy.

Previous Council Direction

The 2019 May 13 Strategic Meeting of Council (C2019-0648) helped Administration understand what is important to Council on Integrated Watershed Management. Three themes on what we heard are reflected in the development of this Policy: the importance of integrating urban planning and watershed management outcomes, collaborating with stakeholders towards policy solutions around water supply, and being proactive in policy and practices The City has control over.

On 2020 January 13, Council accepted the One Calgary One Water: A framework for Calgary's water secure future (UCS2019-1539) and directed Administration to report on the Source Water Protection Plan and Policy by Q2 2020 (deferred to Q3 2020 due to COVID-19).

Timeline – Source Water Protection Policy

