

## Summary of Scenario Stress Test on MDP/CTP Sustainability Principles

The Next 20 update of the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and Calgary Transportation Plan (CTP) focuses on long-term policies that will guide Calgary's urban form and transportation network. The scenarios were applied to 'stress test' the Sustainability Principles contained in the MDP and CTP. This process has helped to identify areas where increased effort will be required to achieve the vision of the MDP and CTP as real-world conditions track towards one (or a blend of two) of the scenarios.

### **RAPID RECOVERY**

The analysis found that Rapid Recovery scenario most closely aligned with the trend forecast as part of the Next 20 State of the City report. Trending suggests it is unlikely to fully meet the plan targets which would decelerate efforts to achieve the Sustainability Principles. This scenario is closest to a 'business as usual' future for Calgary, and includes:

- a rebound in the oil & gas sector, though with more moderate population and job growth rates due to efficiencies already achieved by the sector over the last five years, and
- consistent with growth patterns in recent growth periods, a continued focus on suburban development over the next 20 years, with some inner city redevelopment.

Even with urban redevelopment continuing at current rates, the focus in this scenario on suburban growth means that development patterns and travel behaviour would not shift quickly enough to achieve the Sustainability Principles or Core Indicator targets of the MDP and CTP.

### **INCREASED CRISIS**

Interestingly, the Increased Crisis scenario was found to have a neutral or slightly decelerating impact on The City's abilities to achieve the MDP/CTP Sustainability Principles. Reasons for this include:

- the decline and slow recovery of Calgary's economy, population and employment base in this scenario which would severely restrict the ability to provide increased housing choices or compact, mixed-use developments in Calgary.
- the increasingly important role of local communities, which could slowly encourage initiatives to increase community wellbeing and the use of more local & sustainable transportation options.

### **TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE**

The Transformational Change scenario has the potential to accelerate achievement of the MDP/CTP Sustainability Principles. Several elements of this scenario that could accelerate progress are:

- the rate and scale of change caused by a rapid diversification of Calgary's local economy (green energy, local manufacturing, technology, etc.) triggering demand for more housing choice and travel choice, and

- a drastic increase in remote work that builds demand for more unique community designs and social spaces, as well as a causing greater mix of land uses throughout Calgary, and the ability to use more sustainable modes of travel to reach nearby destinations.

The City, citizens, and private sector businesses would still need to proactively work towards these outcomes to capitalize on the opportunities created in this scenario.