

Deputy City Manager's Office Report to
Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
2020 November 12

ISC: UNRESTRICTED
IGA2020-1232
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2021 Government of Alberta Budget Submission

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee requests the Mayor submit a letter based on Attachment 1 to the Minister of Treasury Board and Finance as The City of Calgary's recommendations for Budget 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Advocating to the Government of Alberta for The City's priorities may result in greater success in obtaining funding for essential programs and services
- What does this mean to Calgarians? A budget letter is a way for The City of Calgary to formally ask the Government of Alberta to consider The City's priorities when it develops the next provincial budget
- Why does it matter? The City relies on Government of Alberta funding for many essential programs and projects
- The City's budget priorities are all items that have previously been advocated to the Government of Alberta: Affordable Housing; Downtown Strategy; Assessment Reform
- Strategic Alignment to Council's Citizen Priorities: A prosperous city

DISCUSSION

The Government of Alberta announced that it will table a budget in February 2021. Public consultation was launched on 2020 October 14. Input will be gathered through an online survey, three telephone town halls in November and December, a "build a budget" tool, and open submissions by email. Consultation will close on 2020 December 4.

The Mayor customarily submits a letter on behalf of The City so that its views can be considered as part of the budget development process.

Attachment 1 provides Administration's recommendations for priorities in the 2021 budget. Given the significantly difficult economic situation in Calgary, and Alberta, The City's budget priorities are limited to areas of urgent need and items where previous requests or commitments have been made:

- 1) Affordable Housing
- 2) Downtown Strategy
- 3) Assessment

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION (EXTERNAL)

- Public Engagement was undertaken
- Public Communication or Engagement was not required
- Public/Stakeholders were informed
- Stakeholder dialogue/relations were undertaken

Content for the budget letter was compiled in consultation with subject matter experts across The City.

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IMPLICATIONS

Social, Environmental and Economic Implications

The identified advocacy priorities include items that promote social wellbeing (affordable housing); and the economy (downtown strategy and assessment reform).

Service and Financial Implications

Advocating for The City's provincial budget priorities may result in greater success in obtaining the operating dollars needed to fund programs and projects that are critical to Calgarians.

RISK

There is no identified risk in making a budget submission to the Government of Alberta.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Proposed content for Government of Alberta Budget Submission

Department Circulation

General Manager	Department	Approve/Consult/Inform