

## Business Improvement Areas – 2021 Board Nominations

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council:

1. Appoint the nominees to the boards of Business Improvement Areas (BIA) as set out in the Attachment for the terms identified;
2. Agree to provide a letter to retiring board members to thank them for their service; and
3. Direct that the Attachment remain confidential pursuant to Section 17 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, until Council rises and reports on the matter.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Each BIA bylaw sets out that members of the BIA boards be appointed by resolution of Council. The recommended nominees to fill current vacancies have been submitted by each BIA following the requirements outlined in the *Municipal Government Act* (Alberta)(*MGA*), *Business Improvement Area Regulation* and each BIA's internal bylaws (two BIAs are referred to as "Business Revitalization Zone" in their legal name; this report refers to them collectively as BIAs).
- **What does this mean to Calgarians?** Under the *MGA*, BIAs are established by Council bylaw which is initiated by businesses in an area to improve, beautify and maintain property in the BIA; develop improve and maintain public parking; and promote the BIA as a business shopping area. They are funded primarily by levies collected by The City from all businesses operating within a BIA's boundaries.
- **Why does this matter?** BIAs are governed by a volunteer board of directors with a number of powers and duties including submission of an annual balanced budget for Council approval, and oversight of the budget implementation. By nominating board members with the skills and experience required to meet their duties and responsibilities, BIAs can operate effectively.
- At the 2020 February 03 Combined Meeting of Council, Council appointed BIA board members as presented and in accordance with each BIA's bylaw.
- Strategic Alignment to Council's Citizen Priorities: A prosperous city

### DISCUSSION

Council has approved the establishment of 15 BIAs. This report includes board nominees for all 15 BIAs.

Each BIA is established under a separate City of Calgary bylaw. The *MGA* and the *BIA Regulation* provide detailed direction for the establishment, governance, structure and operations of BIAs.

Section 50 of the *MGA* provides that a Council may by bylaw establish a BIA for one or more of the following purposes:

- (a) improving, beautifying and maintaining property in the business improvement area;
- (b) developing, improving and maintaining public parking;
- (c) promoting the business improvement area as a business or shopping area.

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The *MGA* provides that a BIA is governed by a board consisting of members appointed by Council under the BIA bylaw and that each BIA board is a corporation. Each bylaw identifies additional governance requirements including the length of board member terms.

The *BIA Regulation* provides the following direction for the structure of BIA boards:

- a board established for a BIA must consist of individuals nominated by one or more taxpayers in the zone;
- Council may also appoint one or more councillors to be members of a board; and
- Council may only revoke the appointment of a board member who was nominated by a taxpayer if the revocation is recommended by the board.

Full board composition for each BIA including term expiry dates can be found on City Clerk's Board, Commissions and Committee webpage (<https://www.calgary.ca/ca/city-clerks/legislative-services/boards-commissions-and-committees-of-council/boards-commissions-and-committees.html>).

### **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION (EXTERNAL)**

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

Following any required governance processes for each BIA, BIAs submitted the names of recommended board members and term lengths (Attachment). As outlined in the *BIA Regulation*, a recommended board member must be nominated by a taxpayer in the zone. Administration supported any questions BIAs had about the nomination process.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Social**

Not Applicable

#### **Environmental**

Not Applicable

#### **Economic**

Appointment of board members with the appropriate skills, knowledge, and diversity of experience enhances the effectiveness of BIAs to meet their mandates and purposes outlined in the *MGA*. BIAs contribute to local economic development and a strong and vibrant business community by improving, beautifying and maintaining property in the business improvement area; developing, improving and maintaining public parking; and promoting the business improvement area as a business or shopping area.

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**Service and Financial Implications**

No anticipated financial impact

**RISK**

Approving the slate of candidates put forward by BIAs in the Attachment will bring the skills and experience each BIA identified to effectively manage and operate their organization, and help create strong governance structures that can support the identification and mitigation of operational and strategic risks.

**ATTACHMENT**

1. Revised 2021 BIA Board Nominations (CONFIDENTIAL)-C2021-0044

Department Circulation

General Manager	Department	Approve/Consult/Inform
Not applicable		