

Letter of Support from UDI/CHBA Calgary Region



Via Email:

Date: Tuesday, December-13-16

To: Kathy Dietrich
Director, Calgary Growth Strategies
Planning and Development
The City of Calgary | Mail Code #8117

From: Guy Huntingford

Re: SPC-PUD – January 2017 | Industry/City Work Plan Update

CHBA-UDI Calgary Region Association (CHBA-UDI-CR) offers this letter in support of the second (bi-annual) update for the Industry/City Work Plan that was requested by Council as part of the January 11th, 2016 Offsite Levy bylaw approval.

CHBA-UDI-CR, which now represents a combined Industry membership of over 700 members, wishes to acknowledge the continued focus and resources that the City dedicates to the Industry/City Work Plan. Our Industry and our members are equally dedicated to this initiative and see it as a critical driver of improving all aspects of planning, policy, financing, approvals and operational issues related to the development/building of the City of Calgary.

CHBA-UDI-CR believes that the collaboration that has resulted from the Industry/City Work Plan has continued to improve since the last report. This has been critical to realizing the outcomes that are desired from the Work Plan.

CHBA-UDI-CR appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft report. We believe that it fairly represents the activities over the last 6 months.

As the report states, there are challenges for each of the 5 initiatives within the Work Plan, some greater than others.

We would be remiss if we didn't state our concern over extended/lengthened timeframes for some of the initiatives, including but not limited to, funding growth strategy. These have been due to unforeseen staffing turnover at the City and a recognition that some of the components of the Work Plan were more ambitious in their timing than initially thought. Industry is very sensitive to extended timelines as they create additional financial risks and downstream challenges. Industry has made our concerns clear and we will work with the City over the next 6 months to bring more projects to completion.

In conclusion, CHBA-UDI-CR is a strong supporter of the Industry/City Work Plan. We believe it has become a key component in the successful development and build-out of the City of Calgary. We look forward to 2017 and a continued working relationship with all participants, both City and Industry, in this important endeavour.

Yours Truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy Huntingford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Guy" being particularly prominent.

Guy Huntingford
CEO, CHBA-UDI Calgary Region Association