

Designation of 26 Historic Streetscapes as Municipal Historic Resources

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Standing Policy Committee on Planning and Urban Development recommends:

1. This Report and Attachments be forwarded to the 2021 April 12 Coumbined Meeting of Council as Urgent Business; and
2. That Council give three readings to each of the following proposed bylaws, for designation as Municipal Historic Resources:
 - a) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Bridgeland (Attachment 2);
 - b) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Cliff Bungalow Mission (Attachment 3);
 - c) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Crescent Heights (Attachment 4);
 - d) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elbow Park (Attachment 5);
 - e) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elboya (Attachment 6);
 - f) Historic Landscaped Medians of Hillhurst (Attachment 7);
 - g) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Inglewood (Attachment 8);
 - h) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Upper Mount Royal (Attachment 9);
 - i) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Ramsay (Attachment 10);
 - j) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Rosedale (Attachment 11);
 - k) Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Scarboro (Attachment 12).

HIGHLIGHTS

- This report presents 26 evaluated heritage streetscapes, located in 11 Calgary communities, for designation as Municipal Historic Resources under Section 26 of the Alberta Historical Resources Act. The proposed designations apply to the continued use of planting patterns of trees and shrubs in the various areas, but do not apply to the roads or sidewalks.
- **What does this mean to Calgarians?** This is an opportunity for The City to identify 26 special places in 11 communities across Calgary. Designating these areas as heritage resources will provide triple-bottom-line benefits for the communities including increased sense of place, and cultural and educational value. Economically, studies have shown that proximity to both street trees and historic resources increase the tangible value of buildings.
- **Why does this matter?** Designation as historic resources provides access to grant funds for ongoing conservation, a valuable commemoration tool to increase public awareness of the historic resource and legal protection to ensure conservation of the resource.
- In 2018 November, Council committed to continue to legally protect heritage assets as part of the One Calgary 2019-2022 Service Plans and Budgets (C2018-1158).
- Strategic Alignment to Council's Citizen Priorities: A city of safe and inspiring neighbourhoods
- Background and Previous Council Direction is included as Attachment 1.

DISCUSSION

Like most historic places, these 26 streets are beloved by communities and instill a sense of neighbourhood pride in citizens. The plantings on these streets are significant for the contribution to early city-building, when Calgary was a young city attempting to attract business, residents and tourists. William Reader was very dedicated to transforming Calgary into a "City of Trees" as he was heavily influenced by the City Beautiful Movement of the early to mid-20th century. Many of these streets take an alternating form of tree, shrub, tree, shrub and today we

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recognize the unique pattern of the streets as important places within communities. Parks also actively works with citizens to conserve and celebrate the heritage of these streets. The designation will apply to the continued use of the historic pattern of vegetation on the street, as the intention is not to impede private property development and to ensure all safety evaluations, pruning and removals remain with Calgary Parks, Urban Forestry.

These designations build on previous designations of park space including places such as Reader Rock Garden, Bowness Park, and smaller places such as the landscaped median in Garden Crescent.

The 26 streetscapes have been previously recognized by Heritage Calgary (formerly the Calgary Heritage Authority) as *Evaluated Historic Resources* using the Council-approved *Historic Resource Evaluation System*. These designations occur in 11 communities:

- **Bridgeland:** 8 Street NE (three blocks)
- **Cliff Bungalow Mission:** 5A Street SW (two blocks)
- **Crescent Heights:** 5 Avenue NE (one block), 7 Avenue NE (two blocks) 8 Avenue NE (two blocks), 9 Avenue NE (two blocks) 10 Avenue NE (two blocks) 11 Avenue NE (two blocks)
- **Elbow Park:** Riverdale Avenue SW (one block), Sifton Boulevard SW (one block)
- **Elboya:** Riverdale Avenue SW (one block)
- **Hillhurst:** 6 Avenue NW (two medians), 11 Street NW (one median), Bowness Road NW (two medians)
- **Inglewood:** 9 Avenue SE (one block)
- **Mount Royal:** Frontenac Avenue SW (one block), Montcalm Crescent SW (one block), Montreal Avenue SW (one block), Quebec Avenue SW (one block)
- **Ramsay:** 9 Street SE (two blocks)
- **Rosedale:** 4a Street NW (three blocks), 5 Street NW (four blocks), 6a Street NW (four blocks)
- **Scarboro:** Senlac Street SW (one block), Sharon Avenue SW (one block), Shelbourne Street SW (two blocks)

Detailed information on all properties, including planting types, can be found in Attachments 2 to 12. Each proposed bylaw provides conditions for treatment of the resource.

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

In 2018 Calgary Parks contacted the 11 community associations with the 26 historic streets, the Calgary Heritage Authority (now Heritage Calgary), the Calgary Heritage Initiative, the Chinook County Historical Society, and the Heritage Community Task Force to gauge support for designations. Parks offered to come and speak at community/organizational meetings and requested letters of support.

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Calgary Parks presented to the following organizations:

- Inglewood Community Association (February 8, 2018)
- The Calgary Heritage Authority (February 9, 2018)
- Crescent Heights Community Association (February 13, 2018)
- Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Association (February 13, 2018)
- Scarboro Community Association (April 10, 2018)
- Mount Royal Community Association (May 28, 2018)
- Elbow Park Residents Association (December 4, 2018)

Calgary Parks received letters of support (Attachment 13) from the following organizations:

- Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association
- Cliff Bungalow Mission Community Association
- Elbow Park Residents Association
- Elboya Heights, Britannia Community Association
- Inglewood Community Association
- Scarboro Community Association
- Calgary Heritage Authority
- The Heritage Community Task Force

Per the Alberta Historical Resources Act (the Act), a 'Notice of Intention' to designate each property was issued to the property owners in accordance with the 60-day notice requirement of the Act.

IMPLICATIONS

Social

Designations have a positive impact on tourism, citizen appreciation and enjoyment of our city, and strengthen local history and collective identity.

Environmental

The legal designation of these historic streetscapes helps develop a conservation ethic within Calgary that celebrates the value of not only these trees, but trees in general. This ethic will encourage more Calgarians to plant trees on private property, further developing our urban forest.

Economic

Economic benefits include increased tourism and studies have shown that proximity to both street trees and historic resources increase the tangible value to buildings.

Service and Financial Implications

The proposed designations will have no direct impact on the operating budget but do allow The City to apply for supporting grants, that if successful would be directed to Calgary Parks operating budget.

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RISK

No risks have been identified in designating the proposed sites as Municipal Historic Resources. All safety evaluations, pruning activities, and removal decisions will remain with Calgary Parks Urban Forestry to ensure the safety of people, property and pets. When historic trees are removed, a tree of the same species will be planted to maintain the historic planting pattern. The risk of not designating these areas is that they remain at risk of redevelopment or alteration, destroying the historic value of these 26 sites.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 – Previous Council Direction, Background
2. Attachment 2 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Bridgeland as a Municipal Historic Resource
3. Attachment 3 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Cliff Bungalow Mission as a Municipal Historic Resource
4. Attachment 4 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Crescent Heights as a Municipal Historic Resource
5. Attachment 5 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elbow Park as a Municipal Historic Resource
6. Attachment 6 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elboya as a Municipal Historic Resource
7. Attachment 7 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Medians of Hillhurst as a Municipal Historic Resource
8. Attachment 8 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Inglewood as a Municipal Historic Resource
9. Attachment 9 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Mount Royal as a Municipal Historic Resource
10. Attachment 10 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Ramsay as a Municipal Historic Resource
11. Attachment 11 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Rosedale as a Municipal Historic Resource
12. Attachment 12 – Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Scarboro as a Municipal Historic Resource
13. Attachment 13 – Letters of Support

Department Circulation

General Manager/Director	Department	Approve/Consult/Inform
Stuart Dalgleish	Planning & Development	Inform
Jill Floen	Law	Consult