

Previous Council Direction and Background

Previous Council Direction

At the 2020 July 20 Combined Meeting of Council, a Notice of Motion was moved by Councillor Chahal (seconded by Councillor Carra). That with respect to Notice of Motion PFC2020-0828, the following be adopted:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Council directs City Administration to:
 - a. Report directly to the 14 September 2020 Combined Meeting of Council with a cost estimate and recommended funding source for the actions contained in this notice of motion that cannot be accommodated within existing budgets and workplans;
 - b. Immediately expedite any building, demolition or development permits related to the severe storm on 13 June 2020 and waive any permit fees for any repairs or alterations attributed to this event on permit applications received prior to 30 June 2021, and prepare any necessary fee schedule amendments for approval;
 - c. Engage development and building industry stakeholders – including but not limited to other governmental bodies, BILD Calgary Region, and Calgary Real Estate Board (CREB) – to comprehensively examine building and planning standards including building codes and material standards to make new construction and building alterations more climate resilient and sustainable, while taking into consideration housing affordability and climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures, and to use this information to inform advocacy to the Minister of Municipal Affairs on potential amendments to the Provincial Building Codes, with a report back to Council by Q1 2021;
 - d. Conduct a comprehensive debrief of The City's (including our partners and other levels of government) response to the severe storms in June 2020 including but not limited to the alert system/warnings, emergency response, overland flooding, public and (where feasible) private infrastructure, roadways, minor/major stormwater systems, catch basins, and smart technology including sensors, with a detailed report and recommendations back to Council by Q1 2021;
2. Council requests that the Mayor write a letter to the federal and provincial governments advocating for immediate relief and incentives including interest free loans, tax credits/incentives, and rebate programs to cover out of pocket expenses for residents and businesses affected by this disaster that are not covered by private or public programs including insurance, and to advocate for a full review of the provincial Disaster Relief Program (DRP) and the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFAA) to ensure these programs are equitable, fair, and better coordinated to address the more frequent and more severe weather patterns that are predicted in the future.

Background

The Notice of Motion directs Administration to create actions to influence both industry and government bodies to make positive changes to prepare our communities and citizens more effectively in the case of future dramatic climate events.

A two-phased project plan was developed, as shown in Diagram 1 below.

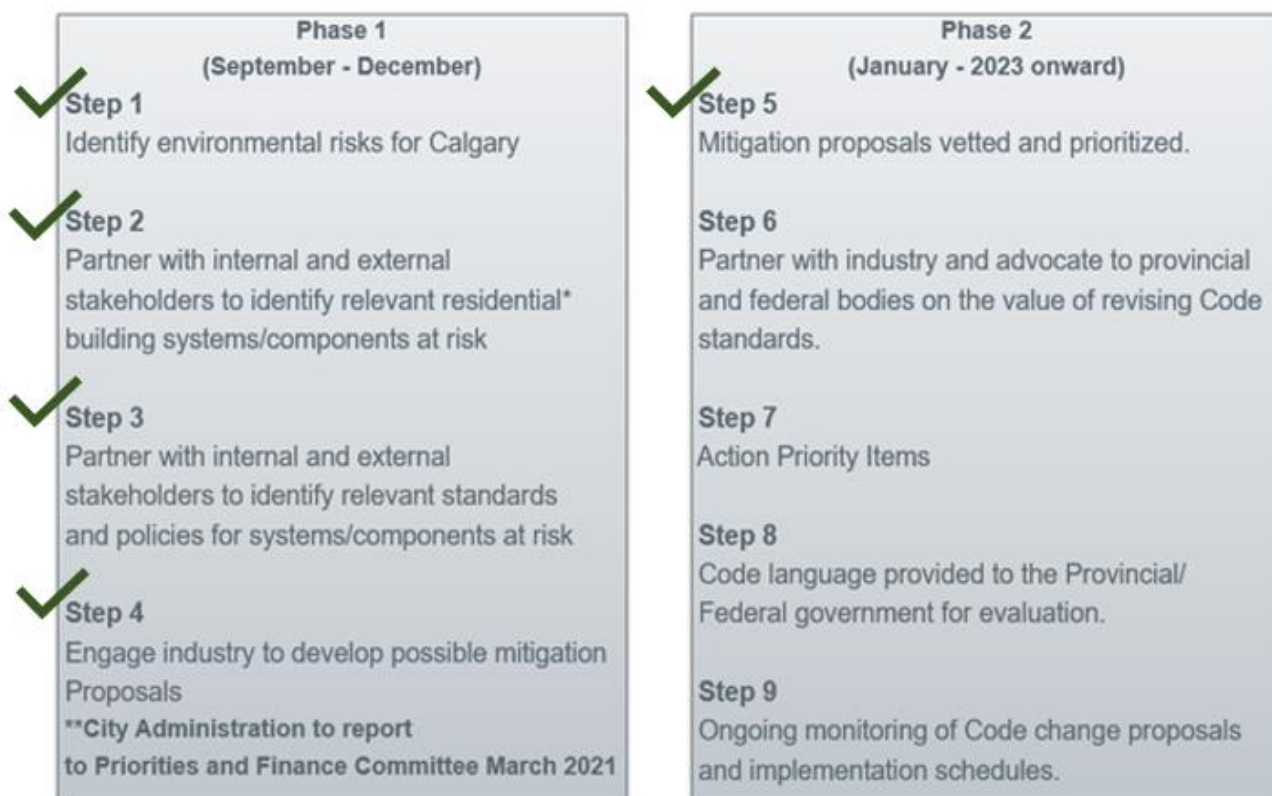


Diagram 1 – Project Plan

The scope of the project is on matters of property protection, personal safety, and energy efficiency for buildings within existing legislative and cost context. Phase 1 of this work was focused on identifying potential mitigation actions to increase resiliency of residential buildings to severe weather events (including wood frame multi-family buildings) in Calgary, with the focus largely on exterior building components. The applicability and relevance of proposed mitigation actions will be considered for other building types within Phase 2 of the project.

It is important to note that despite being the only mechanism mentioned in Phase 2 of the project plan, code changes are one of many actions available to achieve the goals of this project. Advocating for change at other levels of government would include providing the government bodies with recommended wording and change proposals, and working cooperatively with the National Research Council, Alberta's Safety Codes Council, and The City's Environment & Safety Management to develop the scientific rationale for code changes. Timing of code changes is dependent on political will at the provincial level, and the code changes would only apply to new buildings that are built after those code changes have been adopted by the province.

To better understand the hazards specific to Calgary and their impact to buildings, the following information was utilized:

- Research and risk analysis prepared by the Calgary Emergency Management Agency within their 'Disaster Risk Registry' and 'Disaster Risk Assessment'. This information

provides a comprehensive look at how risks, including environmental, impact our city and how they are managed.

- The 'Projected Climate Risk to Buildings' memo, as prepared by Environment & Safety Management. This information contains climate change projections for the next 30 years, specific to Calgary.
- External stakeholders provided information on risk to buildings.
- Seven environmentally driven hazards were identified as priorities: severe hailstorms, tornados, extreme cold, severe rainstorms, severe winter storms, severe blizzards, and river flooding.

Please find in Table 1 below, the list of stakeholders who participated in engagement sessions with Calgary Building Services.

External stakeholders	Internal stakeholders
BILD (including Brookfield Properties Development, Jayman BUILT, Shane Homes)	Planning & Development (including Calgary Building Services, Community Planning, Calgary Growth Strategies)
Calgary Real Estate Board	Affordable Housing – Calgary Housing
Calgary Construction Association	Calgary Emergency Management Agency
SAIT School of Construction (including SAIT Green Building Technologies)	Climate Change & Environmental Management – Environment & Safety Management
IKO Industries	Water Resources – Utilities & Environmental Protection
Insurance Bureau of Canada	Resilience and Infrastructure – Deputy City Manager's Office
Institute of Catastrophic Loss Reduction	Corporate Engineering & Energy – Corporate Analytics & Innovation
Alberta New Home Warranty	
Alberta Roofing Contractors Association	
Alberta Allied Roofing Association	
Siding Contractors Association of Alberta	

Table 1 – Engagement Stakeholders