Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elbow Park as a Municipal Historic Resource

WHEREAS the *Historical Resources Act*, R.S.A. 2000 c. H-9, as amended (the "*Act*") permits The City of Calgary Council ("City Council") to designate any historic resource within the municipality whose preservation City Council considers to be in the public interest together with any specified land in or on which it is located, as a Municipal Historic Resource;

AND WHEREAS the owners of the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elbow Park have been given sixty (60) days` written notice of the intention to pass this Bylaw in accordance with the *Act*;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALGARY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

SHORT TITLE

1. This Bylaw may be cited as "City of Calgary Bylaw to Designate the Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elbow Park as a Municipal Historic Resource".

MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE

2. The landscaping on the following boulevards:

   a) Riverdale Avenue SW from 9 Street SW to 10 Street SW,
   b) Sifton Boulevard SW from 7 Street SW to Elbow Drive SW,

   as shown in the attached Schedule "A", are hereby designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.

3. The specific elements of the Historic Resource possessing heritage value are hereafter referred to as the Regulated Portions (the "Regulated Portions"). The Regulated Portions are identified in the attached Schedule "B".

PERMITTED REPAIRS AND REHABILITATION

4. a) The Regulated Portions of the Historic Resource, as described or identified in Schedule "B" shall not be removed, destroyed, disturbed, altered, rehabilitated, repaired or otherwise permanently changed, other than for routine preservation and maintenance work, without prior written approval from City Council, or the person appointed by City Council as the Approving Authority for the purposes of administration of Section 26 of the *Act*. Any alteration, rehabilitation, repair or change to the Regulated Portions must be in accordance with the terms of the Parks Canada 2010 publication <u>Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada</u>, (the "*Standards and Guidelines*"), as referenced and summarized in the attached Schedule "C".

   b) All portions of the Historic Resource, which are not described or identified as a Regulated Portion in Schedule "B" are hereby known as the Non-regulated Portions (the "Non-regulated Portions"). The Non-regulated Portions are not

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subject to the *Standards and Guidelines* and may be rehabilitated, altered or repaired, provided that such rehabilitation, alteration, and repair does not negatively impact the Regulated Portions or adversely affect the historical, contextual or landmark character of the property, and that all other permits required to do such work have been obtained.

COMPENSATION

5. No compensation pursuant to Section 28 of the *Act* is owing.

EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

6. Any employees of The City of Calgary who exercise land use and heritage planning powers and duties are hereby authorized to execute such documents as may be necessary to give effect to this Bylaw.

SCHEDULES

7. The schedules to this Bylaw form a part of it.

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SCHEDULE "A"

Calgary

Elbow Park Boulevards

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SCHEDULE "B"

Description

The Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elbow Park consist of two tree and shrub-lined residential boulevards created by William Reader, Parks Superintendent, and the City of Calgary in 1929. The boulevards are as follows: Riverdale Avenue SW from 9 Street SW to 10 Street SW and Sifton Boulevard SW from 7 Street SW to Elbow Drive SW. The boulevards each contain regularly spaced trees and shrubs with a manicured turf understory separating the sidewalk from the carriageway on both sides. The vegetation present on the boulevards include Elm trees (Ulmus americana), Green Ash trees (Fraxinum mandshruica), and Honeysuckle shrubs (Lonicera tatarica).

Heritage Value

The Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elbow Park have value from association with William Reader, whose design and construction of the boulevards was influenced by the City Beautiful Movement of the early to mid-20th century. The boulevards also have historic and on-going social value as they are fundamental to the aesthetic quality of neighbourhoods.

Reader was Calgary's Superintendent of Parks and cemeteries from 1913 to 1942 and took particular interest in planting and maintaining the tree-lined boulevards of the inner-city communities. He was dedicated to maintaining natural elements within the urban landscape and believed that tree-lined boulevards would foster civic pride. This view aligned with the City Beautiful Movement and its efforts to create social order and a healthy population through visual aesthetic harmony and access to public green spaces.

Reader was likely influenced by Thomas Mawson and his design for the City of Calgary which was finished in 1914. The Mawson Plan exemplified the City Beautiful Movement, emphasizing the importance of tree-lined boulevards. The Plan proposed the creation of a system of green spaces, parks, playgrounds, park-like avenues, waterfront promenades, and a radiating network of broad parkways and tree-lined boulevards connecting the heart of the city to the open country. The ultimate goal was to have attractive boulevards and open spaces within easy reach of every inhabitant of the city, restoring visual and aesthetic harmony to a boom and bust city hastily built during cycles of economic prosperity.

The City Beautiful Movement was a planning tradition that believed people and cities would be their best if the natural world was brought into the urban landscape in an orderly and aesthetically pleasing fashion. However, the social value of urban green spaces was also reflected at the community level. Letters from Calgary citizens to the Parks Superintendent during 1920's and 1930's display the desire of individuals to embrace the greening of their public and residential streets. The requests vary from asking about timelines for boulevards construction to requesting the city plant particular trees and shrubs. Reader himself noted the great number of requests regarding boulevard construction in the 1929 Parks Annual Report. Today, historic tree-lined boulevards are valued as contributing to the aesthetic quality of the neighbourhood and citizen health.

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Character Defining Elements

The character defining elements of all three Historic Landscaped Boulevards of Elbow Park include:

- The manicured turf separating the walk from the carriage way;
- The separated sidewalk; and
- The asphalt carriageway

The character defining elements unique to each boulevard are:

- Riverdale Avenue SW Boulevards: Continued use of Elm trees (Ulmus americana) and Honeysuckle shrubs (Lonicera tatarica) in the regularly spaced, alternating pattern existing at the time of passage of this bylaw.
- Sifton Boulevard SW Boulevards: Continued use of Green Ash trees (Fraxinum mandshruica) in the regularly spaced pattern existing at the time of passage of this bylaw.

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REGULATED PORTIONS

The regulated portions of the Municipal Historic Resource are as follows:

1.0 Riverdale Avenue SW Boulevards

- Continued use of Elm trees (Ulmus americana) and Honeysuckle shrubs (Lonicera tatarica) in the regularly spaced, alternating pattern existing at the time of passage of this bylaw; and
- Manicured turf on the ground plane.

2.0 Sifton Boulevard SW Boulevards

- Continued use of Green Ash trees (Fraxinum mandshruica) in the regularly spaced pattern existing at the time of passage of this bylaw; and
- Manicured turf on the ground plane.

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SCHEDULE "C"

The primary purpose of the *Standards and Guidelines* is to provide guidance to achieve sound conservation practice. They are used to assess proposed changes to designated Municipal Historical Resources and form the basis for review and assessment for the approved rehabilitation program.

The *Standards and Guidelines* were developed by Parks Canada and were formally adopted by The City of Calgary in 2005. They provide a philosophical consistency for project work; and while neither technical nor case-specific, they provide the framework for making essential decisions about those features of a historic place, which should be maintained and cannot be altered.

The *Standards* listed below and the referenced *Guidelines* shall apply to the Regulated Portions and any rehabilitation or maintenance work undertaken with respect to them at any time.

The Standards
Definitions of the terms in italics below are set forth in the Introduction of the *Standards and Guidelines*. In the event of a conflict between the italicized terms below and those in the *Standards and Guidelines*, the latter shall take precedence. The Standards are not presented in a sequential or hierarchical order, and as such, equal consideration should be given to each. All Standards for any given type of treatment must therefore be applied simultaneously to a project.

General Standards (all projects)

1. Conserve the *heritage value* of a *historic place*. Do not remove, replace, or substantially alter its intact or repairable *character-defining elements*. Do not move a part of a *historic place* if its current location is a *character-defining element*.

2. Conserve changes to a *historic place* which, over time, have become *character-defining elements* in their own right.

3. Conserve *heritage value* by adopting an approach calling for *minimal intervention*.

4. Recognize each *historic place* as a physical record of its time, place and use. Do not create a false sense of historical development by adding elements from other *historic places* or other properties or by combining features of the same property that never coexisted.

5. Find a use for a *historic place* that requires minimal or no change to its *character defining elements.*

6. Protect and, if necessary, stabilize a *historic place* until any subsequent *intervention* is undertaken. Protect and preserve archaeological resources in place. Where there is potential for disturbance of archaeological resources, take mitigation measures to limit damage and loss of information.

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7. Evaluate the existing condition of *character-defining elements* to determine the appropriate *intervention* needed. Use the gentlest means possible for any *intervention*. Respect *heritage value* when undertaking an *intervention*.

8. Maintain *character-defining elements* on an ongoing basis. Repair *character-defining elements* by reinforcing their materials using recognized conservation methods. Replace in kind any extensively deteriorated or missing parts of *character-defining elements*, where there are surviving prototypes.

9. Make any *intervention* needed to preserve *character-defining elements* physically and visually compatible and identifiable upon close inspection and document any *intervention* for future reference.

Additional Standards Relating to Rehabilitation

10. Repair rather than replace *character-defining elements*. Where *character-defining elements* are too severely deteriorated to repair, and where sufficient physical evidence exists, replace them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing of sound versions of the same elements. Where there is insufficient physical evidence, make the form, material and detailing of the new elements compatible with the character of the *historic place*.

11. Conserve the *heritage value* and *character-defining elements* when creating any new additions to a *historic place* or any related new construction. Make the new work physically and visually compatible with, subordinate to and distinguishable from the *historic place*.

12. Create any new additions or related new construction so that the essential form and integrity of a *historic place* will not be impaired if the new work is removed in the future.

Additional Standards Relating to Restoration

13. Repair rather than replace *character-defining elements* from the restoration period. Where *character-defining elements* are too severely deteriorated to repair and where sufficient physical evidence exists, replace them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing of sound versions of the same elements.

14. Replace missing features from the restoration period with new features whose forms, materials and detailing are based on sufficient physical, documentary and/or oral evidence.

Guidelines

The full text of the *Standards and Guidelines* is available online through www.historicplaces.ca, or from:

Parks Canada National Office
25 Eddy Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0M5

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