

Summary of Implications

This attachment outlines the summary of social, environmental, and economic benefits associated with the initial investment package's support of downtown vibrancy and toward implementation of Calgary's Greater Downtown Plan.

Social

The Plan establishes a vision for accommodating an equitable community that makes it easier for all citizens to live and thrive in Greater Downtown, regardless of stage of life, income, cultural background or ability.

Environmental

The Plan supports more compact, complete and climate resilient neighbourhoods. Removing barriers and encouraging redevelopment in Calgary's oldest neighbourhoods makes efficient use of existing infrastructure and brings people closer to services and amenities, resulting in reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The Plan supports the integration of climate change mitigation and risk-reduction strategies into decision-making within Greater Downtown. Additionally, the Plan leads in approaches to transitioning to a low-carbon economy, improving energy use and potentially resulting in reduced GHG emissions. The Plan also includes direction to protect the health of the rivers and urban tree canopy.

Economic

What happens downtown, especially in terms of real estate, has a direct impact on the rest of the city. Calgary needs a strong downtown to grow our economy, create jobs and fund the City services we rely on. Calgary's future success relies on our downtown being a place where people want to live, visit and set up businesses. Moving forward, we need our downtown communities to reflect our citizens: diverse and inclusive to different cultures, ages and financial means. The Plan provides the roadmap to ensure Calgary's downtown communities remain attractive and vibrant. When our communities are attractive, diverse and vibrant, so is Calgary.