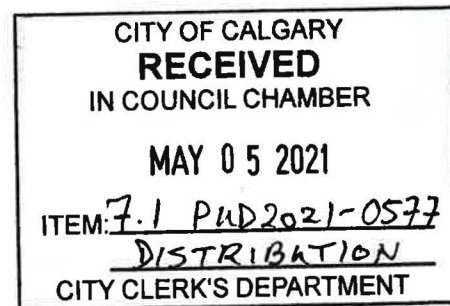




April 26, 2021

Mayor Naheed Nenshi and Members of Council  
Stuart Dalgleish, General Manager of Planning & Development  
David Duckworth, City Manager  
City Clerk



### **Re: Guidebook for Great Communities – What We Heard Report Timelines**

The Guidebook for Great Communities was presented at the Combined Meeting of Council on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. The public hearing part of the meeting took place over three days and as part of the motions passed by Council on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the following was adopted (as amended):

5. Direct Administration to report to the 2021 **May 05** Standing Policy Committee on Planning and Urban Development committee meeting with a “What We Heard” report based on the Guidebook for Great Communities Public Hearing 2021 March 22-24 **and proposed recommended amendments to the Guidebook for Council consideration, engaging with stakeholders as needed, with public participation at the committee meeting.**

Since the Combined Meeting of Council, City Administration has led five Guidebook What We Heard Report Sessions for the public. We have heard from our member community associations that these sessions were positive: members felt that key themes from the public hearing were presented respectfully, that city staff showed openness and answered questions, and that the small group format allowed for thoughtful conversations between participants. Overall, community associations have valued this time and felt that Administration genuinely listened.

However, during the week of April 19, Administration informed a working group of communities it met with that it would not be able to share its recommended changes with the group or communities until after the deadline submission (April 28) for resident letters, did not indicate the nature of changes it was contemplating and did not react to the proposed changes this group presented to them. This unfortunately leaves communities “blind” to the nature of possible changes and seriously erodes the notion of collaboratively working together.

We fully appreciate and understand that Administration was given a very tight timeline to produce the What We Heard Report. However, community members need time to review the proposed amendments and either support the proposed changes or highlight areas of ongoing concern. Presenting the report and amendments after the public letter submission deadline is problematic. First, community associations want their letters to be part of the agenda package so their residents can see their comments ahead of the PUD meeting and to give Council opportunity to digest their feedback. While they understand they can submit letters after the deadline, the letters will not be included in the



agenda package. Second, they want their comments to add value to the proposed changes and outstanding issues. Third, they want their letters to reflect any guidebook amendments proposed by Administration, and therefore they first need to see the amendments.

Given that the Guidebook for Great Communities is critically important to the evolution of our planning system in Calgary, and residents and communities are equally passionate about their neighbourhoods, we would respectfully request that citizens are given time to digest the possible amendments before proceeding to PUD and City Council. As such, we would ask that the Guidebook presentation to PUD be delayed to the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, to allow for thoughtful consideration and ensure public submissions are relevant to the discussion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Valerie Mushinski*

Valerie Mushinski  
President

*Roy Wright*

Roy Wright (Apr 27, 2021 08:18 MDT)

Roy Wright  
Director  
Chair Urban Planning Committee

*Leslie Evans*

Leslie Evans  
Executive Director









# GuidebookExtension

Final Audit Report

2021-04-27

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