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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Natalie
Last name (required)	Sit
What do you want to do? (required)	Request to speak, Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Beltline and Inglewood Pools Program, CPS2021-0748
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sad to see the Beltline pool close but great there is funding to help transform it into a community hub - The \$45 million investment for Repsol Centre to make it welcoming, accessible, and affordable leisure aquatic amenities for residents of Greater Downtown is a definite positive - The City needs to develop a longer-term plan for delivering high quality, modern, economically viable, and inclusive wellness and recreation infrastructure to the Greater Downtown. If the City want families and senior citizens to stay downtown, they need to these amenities.

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Beltline Neighbourhoods Association
PO Box 16027 Lower Mount Royal
Calgary, AB T2T 5H7

City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100, Stn M
Calgary, AB, T2P 2M5

May 11, 2021

RE: Beltline and Inglewood Pools Program, CPS2021-0748

On behalf of the more than 25,000 Calgarians living in the Beltline, the Beltline Neighbourhoods Association supports recommendations for the Beltline and Inglewood Pools Program, CPS2021-0748.

We appreciate that Beltline pool has been an unsustainable financial drain to The City of Calgary for many years. However, it is deeply unfortunate that--with the closure of the Gray Family YMCA and the pool in the Beltline Aquatic and Fitness Centre--citizens within our neighbourhoods have a significant lack of aquatic facilities serving children, families, and seniors.

Therefore, we also support the investment in Repsol Sport Centre (Repsol Centre) to also offer more welcoming, accessible, and affordable leisure aquatic amenities for residents of Greater Downtown. We strongly support the approval of the capital budget of \$45 million for Repsol Centre to be funded from the current and future balance of the Community Investment Reserve (2022 –2026). Our expectation is that these improvements will give all our Beltline citizens an aquatic facility that can serve the diversity of our demographics and aquatic recreation needs. Repsol Centre must be accessible to users of all abilities, religious and cultural backgrounds, and socioeconomic circumstances.

It is also notable that the Beltline Aquatic and Fitness Centre has an opportunity to become a vibrant community hub for citizens in our neighbourhoods--a hub that is also sorely lacking. Therefore, we also support one-time funding of \$400,000 in 2022 from the Budget Savings Account for the Beltline Aquatic & Fitness Centre to allow community use while work to re-purpose the facility is underway.

While this investment is welcome and necessary, we believe that the City must also consider a longer term strategy for delivering high quality, modern, economically viable, and inclusive wellness and recreation infrastructure to the Greater Downtown. With the closure of the Gray Family YMCA, and despite the proposed investments noted previously, our communities remain underserved relative to our population, growth potential, and contributions to the City's overall tax revenue base when compared to new communities on the City's periphery. We would request that the City undertake a gap analysis and



feasibility review to investigate options for potential sites, amenities and services that could be accommodated in future facilities so that a framework exists should funding become available.

We sincerely appreciate the efforts of City administration to engage with the citizens of the Beltline and the BNA. We believe these recommendations and important investments in community infrastructure can improve the quality of life for many of the people who live in our neighbourhoods and throughout Calgary.

Sincerely,

Natalie Sit
Vice President

Peter Oliver
President

