

TERMS OF REFERENCE RENEWAL - URBAN MUNICIPALITIES TASK FORCE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to confirm The City of Calgary's participation on the *Urban Municipalities Task Force* for two more years and to appoint two members of Council to represent The City of Calgary. The *Task Force* has enabled dialogue and collaboration between The City and our geographically close urban municipal neighbours. If the term is not extended, the *Task Force* will expire in October 2016. More time is required to undertake research and formulate recommendations to respective councils.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee recommend that Council:

1. Extend the term of the Urban Municipalities Task Force for up to two (2) years from the date of Council approval of this report or a lesser term if so determined by *Task Force* members, and;
2. Appoint two (2) members of Council to represent The City of Calgary on the Task Force.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, DATED 2016 SEPTEMBER 08:

That Council:

1. Extend the term of the Urban Municipalities Task Force for up to two (2) years from the date of Council approval of this report or a lesser term if so determined by *Task Force* members, and;
2. Appoint two (2) members of Council to represent The City of Calgary on the Task Force.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

2015 September 28 report IGA2015-0693, Council established the committee and adopted the Terms of Reference of the *Urban Municipalities Task Force* pursuant to Section 9(1) of the Procedure Bylaw 44M2006 and appointed two (2) members of Council to represent The City of Calgary on the *Urban Municipalities Task Force*.

BACKGROUND

Both the *Urban Municipalities Task Force* Terms of Reference (see attachment) and Council representation was approved in 2015 September by the individual Councils of The City of Calgary, The City of Airdrie, The City of Chestermere and The Town of Cochrane. The *Task Force* was struck to consider the implementation of the Calgary Metropolitan Plan and approaches to achieving regional sustainability. The term of the *Task Force* was limited to one year and will cease activity in 2016 October if it is not extended.

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The establishment of the *Task Force* occurred just weeks before the Government of Alberta announced that a mandatory Growth Management Board would be established for the Calgary region. This announcement created a degree of complication that was not envisioned when the *Task Force* was established. The creation of a mandatory Growth Management Board for the Calgary Region was made certain with the release of Bill 21 (modernized *Municipal Government Act*). It is anticipated that the mandate of the Board will be to create a regional growth plan and address the planning, delivery and funding of regional services.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

The *Task Force* has enabled collaboration between The City and our closest urban municipal neighbours. Over the past year, members of the *Task Force* explored tools such as municipal government board appeals, annexation, amalgamation and formation of specialized municipalities. However, more time is required to undertake research and develop a recommended collaborative approach. Therefore, Administration is recommending a two year extension to the term of the *Task Force*, to 2018, with the option to disband the group earlier as required. In addition, two members of Council will need to be appointed. Once a preferred course of action is determined, Administration will return to Council for their endorsement. Over the two year period, Intergovernmental and Corporate Strategy will continue to monitor the situation and will be active participants in the process to develop the regulations that will establish the membership, mandate and governance of the Growth Management Board for the Calgary region.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

The *Urban Municipalities Task Force* met six times between October 2015 and June 2016. The work to date has focused on tools to address regional sustainability and governance frameworks to achieve that goal. Additional time is required to undertake further research and to develop a strategic approach and Council recommendation(s). Once complete, Administration will return to Council with recommendations.

Strategic Alignment

The recommendations align with the Triple Bottom Line Policy Framework states that "*The City works with its regional partners to ensure that growth is managed effectively to achieve the goal of long-term urban sustainability*".

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

The *Urban Municipalities Task Force* was established to address triple bottom line concerns with the overall goal of sustainability of our shared region.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

There are no operating budget impacts associated with the recommendations in this report.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

There are no capital budget impacts associated with the recommendations in this report.

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Risk Assessment

Support for the Task Force should continue by extending the term and including members of Council. This extension will ensure the relationships that have been built with the municipal partners on the task force will continue. In addition, this will facilitate a successful operation of, and associated relationship with, the new Growth Management Board.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Collaboration, through a *Task Force*, is critical to the success of the region. Extending the term for two years, with Council support, will help to further the discussions and continue to build relationships with The City of Airdrie, The City of Chestermere and The Town of Cochrane. The *Task Force* is considered an appropriate platform for strategy development and coordinated action.

ATTACHMENT

Council Approved Terms of Reference - Urban Municipalities Task Force