

BYLAW TO ESTABLISH WARD BOUNDARIES FOR THE 2017 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under Section 148 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA), Council is required to establish the Ward Boundaries by bylaw. Proposed Bylaw 25M2016, a Bylaw to amend Bylaw 19M91, "Being a Bylaw of The City of Calgary to revise the electoral Ward Boundaries and to authorize the Returning Officer to establish the boundaries of voting subdivisions of The City of Calgary", will establish the Ward Boundaries for the 2017 Municipal General Election, as contained in Attachment 1.

RETURNING OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council:

1. Give first reading to proposed Bylaw 25M2016; and
2. Direct the Returning Officer to complete the statutory advertising for public notification of Bylaw 25M2016.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

At the 2016 March 14 Regular Meeting of Council, Report C2016-0153 Proposed Alternate Ward Boundary Scenario, as amended, was adopted as follows:

"ADOPT, AS AMENDED, Moved by Councillor Demong, Seconded by Councillor Magliocca, that the Returning Officer's Recommendations contained in Report C2016-0153 be adopted, **as amended**, as follows:

That Council:

- 1.b. Adopt the Returning Officer's ward boundary scenario presented in Attachment 2 to C2016-0153, to take effect on General Election day 2017, **after amendment to the ward boundary scenario, by moving the community of Royal Vista from Ward 2 to Ward 1, and by moving Residual Area 02A from Ward 2 to Ward 1.**
2. Direct the Returning Officer to return with a bylaw to amend Bylaw 19M91 Ward Boundary Bylaw no later than 2016 May 16; and
3. Direct the Returning Officer to amend Council Policy CC017, to reflect the change in the Council term of office to four years and a major review every two election cycles and obtain input from Members of Council on other potential changes".

BACKGROUND

Council Policy, CC017, Ward Determination and Review, requires that revisions to Ward Boundaries for the 2017 Municipal General Election are necessary to address issues related to an imbalance in the distribution of population across Wards.

Section 606 of the MGA requires that the public notification of the Bylaw be advertised prior to second reading of the Bylaw.

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INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

The Recommendation 1.b. of C2016-0153 and amendment were incorporated into proposed Bylaw 25M2016.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research Ward Boundary Communication

Council Members directly impacted by the changes were consulted.

Strategic Alignment

The revised boundaries will ensure that all City Wards are within the allowed Policy deviation of $\pm 25\%$ deviation from the mean for 2017 Municipal General Election.

This is aligned with 2015-2018 Action Plan "A Well Run City".

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

Fifty-eight communities will be impacted by the changes to boundaries. As a result, communications on the changes will be extensive. No significant environmental or economic impacts were identified.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

Unspent one time advertising funds allocated in the 2015 operating budget for the Ward Boundary Commission were carried over to 2016. This is sufficient funding for advertising and public notification, so there is no additional impact on current and future operating budgets.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

There is no impact on current and future capital budgets.

Risk Assessment

Under Section 149 of the MGA, a Bylaw must be passed at least 180 days before the General Election. In addition, sufficient time is required to allow for two (2) consecutive weeks of advertising and the provision of time for petitioning against the passing of the bylaw between first and second Readings. As well, preparations for the 2017 enumeration of electors, in accordance with the new Ward Boundaries, will begin in October 2016.

As the School Board Ward Boundaries, within the City of Calgary, are contiguous with City Ward Boundaries, the two school Boards may desire to adjust their boundaries which will require Ministerial approval. Sufficient time must be allowed for the School Boards and Provincial Government to accommodate this provision and Ministerial approval.

The timeline for this process is given in Attachment 2.

For these reasons, first reading of Bylaw 25M2016 to amend Bylaw 19M91, must occur no later than 2016 May 16 Regular Meeting of Council.

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REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

Council adopted the Recommendations 1.b. and 2, as amended, in report C2016-0153 and directed the Returning Officer to prepare the Ward Boundary Bylaw.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Proposed Bylaw 25M2016
2. Timelines for Ward Boundaries