

Community Services Report to
Community Development Committee
2022 February 9

ISC: UNRESTRICTED
CD2022-0027
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Business Improvement Areas – 2022 Board Appointments and Amended Mainstreet Bowness BIA Bylaw

RECOMMENDATIONS:

With respect to Report CD2022-0027, the following be approved:

That the Community Development Committee forward Report CD2022-0027 to the 2022 February 15 Combined Meeting of Council.

That the Community Development Committee recommend that Council:

1. Give three readings to the proposed bylaw to amend the Mainstreet Bowness Business Improvement Area Bylaw 55M2016 (Attachment 1);
2. Appoint members to the boards of Business Improvement Areas as set out in Attachment 2 for the terms identified;
3. Keep Attachment 2 held confidential pursuant to Section 17 (Disclosure harmful to personal privacy) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* until after Council rises and reports on the matter; and
4. Provide a letter to retiring board members to thank them for their service.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) requires that Council appoint all board members to Business Improvement Area (BIA) boards of directors. The recommended appointments put forward in this report to fill current vacancies have been submitted by each BIA following the requirements outlined in the *Business Improvement Area Regulation* (BIA Regulation) and each BIA's establishing bylaw.
- Each BIA's establishing bylaw states the total number of board members. The Mainstreet Bowness BIA board passed a motion to request an increase to its total number of board members from eight (8) to ten (10), and an amendment to its establishing bylaw is included in Attachment 1 for consideration.
- **What does this mean to Calgarians?** The 15 BIAs established in Calgary are important organizations that enhance and support local economic development by improving, beautifying and maintaining the BIA; developing, improving and maintaining public parking; and promoting the BIA.
- **Why does this matter?** BIAs are governed by volunteer boards of directors composed of individuals nominated by taxpayers in the BIA. Under the MGA and BIA Regulation, Council must appoint all BIA board members.
- BIAs are funded by their member businesses through a levy collected by The City and returned to the BIA for its operations. BIA operations are governed by the board of directors.
- This report is presented annually to Council and BIA appointments were last approved at the 2021 January 18 Combined Meeting of Council.
- Strategic Alignment to Council's Citizen Priorities: A prosperous city

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DISCUSSION

Each of Calgary's 15 BIAs is established by Council through a separate establishing bylaw, following the processes and requirements in the MGA and the BIA Regulation, which provide detailed direction for the establishment, governance, and operations of BIAs. This report includes board nominees for all 15 BIAs for consideration for appointment by Council, as well as a bylaw to amend the number of board members for Mainstreet Bowness BIA. Mainstreet Bowness BIA is requesting an increase to its board from eight members to ten to accommodate new board members representing new businesses without losing experienced board members who continue to want to serve on the board. The list of nominations in Attachment 2 reflects the proposed increase to the number of members on the Mainstreet Bowness BIA board.

The MGA requires that a BIA is governed by a board consisting of members appointed by Council under the BIA's establishing bylaw and identifies that the BIA board is a corporation. Each BIA's establishing bylaw defines additional governance requirements including the length of board member terms.

The BIA Regulation provides the following direction for the structure of BIA boards:

- a board established for a BIA must consist of individuals nominated by one or more taxpayers in the zone;
- Council may also appoint one or more councillors to be members of a board; and
- Council may only revoke the appointment of a board member who was nominated by a taxpayer if the revocation is recommended by the board.

This report meets the requirements of the MGA and BIA Regulation as the recommended candidate names and term lengths included in Attachment 2 were submitted by each BIA.

The request to bring this report forward to the 2021 February 15 Combined Meeting of Council is recommended to support the timely appointment of board members and avoid potential gaps in board composition.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION (EXTERNAL)

- Public Engagement was undertaken
- Public Communication or Engagement was not required
- Public/Stakeholders were informed
- Stakeholder dialogue/relations were undertaken

Administration worked with each BIAs to prepare the materials attached to this report.

IMPLICATIONS

Social

BIAs and their governing boards support community vibrancy and a strong local economy, enhance public spaces, and support overall quality of life in Calgary.

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Environmental

BIAs and their governing boards support walkable communities and create local hubs that can help support the reduction of local residents’ carbon footprint.

Economic

Appointment of board members based on recommendations from each BIA board supports BIAs to meet their mandates and purposes outlined in the MGA. BIAs contribute to a strong and vibrant local business community by improving, beautifying and maintaining property in the business improvement area; developing, improving and maintaining public parking; and promoting the business improvement area as a business or shopping area.

Service and Financial Implications

No anticipated financial impact

RISK

Approving the amendments to the Mainstreet Bowness BIA bylaw and the slate of candidates put forward by each BIA in Attachment 2 supports each BIA to effectively manage and operate, and helps support strong governance structures that can identify, manage and mitigate operational and strategic risks.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Wording for a Bylaw to amend Bylaw 55M2016
2. 2022 BIA Board Appointments (CONFIDENTIAL)

Department Circulation

General Manager/Director	Department	Approve/Consult/Inform
Not applicable		