

2014 - 2015 CENTRE CITY ANNUAL UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Centre City 2014 - 2015 Annual Update captures the major achievements of Administration towards implementing the Centre City Plan in 2014. The update also captures initiatives currently underway or planned for 2015.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the SPC on Planning & Urban Development recommend that Council receive for information the Centre City 2014 - 2015 Annual Update.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPC ON PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DATED 2015 JUNE 10:

That the Administration Recommendation contained in Report PUD2015-0392 be approved.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

On 2007 May 07 Council approved the Centre City Plan (CPC2007-049), which included a recommendation for regular monitoring and reporting on the Centre City.

On 2006 May 08 Council allocated funds to address the safety of citizens and community issues in the downtown Core (M2006-02), and launched Clean to the Core on 2006 August 23.

BACKGROUND

The Centre City Plan is a comprehensive and strategic long-term vision for the future of Calgary's Centre City. The Plan presents a vision for creating a Centre City that is a liveable, thriving and caring place.

The Centre City Implementation team, as part of Planning, Development & Assessment, coordinates initiatives, facilitates collaboration, and builds strong partnerships with both internal business units and external stakeholders to achieve the vision of the Centre City Plan.

The vision of a vibrant, safe and clean Centre City where people want to live, work and play continues to be realized as Administration and external partners share knowledge and resources, leveraging opportunities to bring the vision to life. Centre City Implementation coordinates the reporting of Centre City initiatives to Council on behalf of the City of Calgary. While this report is limited to City-led initiatives, Administration acknowledges the important role external partners play in making a difference in Calgary's Centre City.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

The Centre City Annual Update (Attachment 1) highlights achievements made by City business units in the Centre City throughout 2014, and provides a snapshot of initiatives underway or planned for 2015. These initiatives align with the vision of the Centre City Plan, the Centre City Plan - Implementation Strategy, and the objectives of Clean to the Core.

Since 2007 The City's investments in the Centre City has created a more attractive core, and resulted in a greater capacity to support and encourage future investment and growth by the

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private sector. Sustaining this momentum and investment is critical to achieving and maintaining the vision of the Centre City Plan.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

A highlight of this year's Centre City Annual Update is the extent of citizen engagement in the designing of vibrant places, improvement of mobility, building community, enhancing safety and keeping the Centre City clean. Over the course of 2014, citizens were invited to participate in the evolution of the Centre City and responded with enthusiasm. Designs for new parks, expansion of cycling infrastructure, and responses to community safety and clean-up initiatives all benefited from the involvement of citizens in both design and implementation.

Building on the Centre City Plan - Implementation Strategy developed in 2012, Centre City Implementation has facilitated a conversation across business units and with external stakeholders to finalize a 10 Year Capital Work Plan with a comprehensive funding strategy. The first four years of this plan are being implemented as part of Action Plan 2015-2018.

Successes in the Centre City, reflects a corporate culture of collaboration, where business units seek out each other and external partners to generate more robust solutions with greater community impact. Ongoing partnerships and collaborations strengthen relationships, build bodies of knowledge and leverage resources for a better return on investment.

Strategic Alignment

Continued implementation of the Centre City Plan aligns with the five Council priorities articulated in Action Plan 2015-2018.

- A prosperous city
- A city of inspiring neighbourhoods
- A city that moves
- A healthy and green city
- A well-run city

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

Centre City initiatives and continued investment in the public realm supports communities where people feel connected, safe, valued and included.

Centre City initiatives align with The City's Environmental Policy, aiming to reduce energy use and expand sustainable transportation options for walking, cycling and public transportation.

A vibrant and healthy Centre City positively impacts Calgary's economy, providing an attractive location for residents and businesses alike. Over the past ten years, private developers have invested over \$8.5 billion into Calgary's Centre City. The Centre City generates over 25 per cent of the City's tax revenue, the majority of which is spent outside Centre City helping to fund city-wide growth and sustainment. Continued investment in the Centre City will have a positive impact on future economic development.

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Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

None

Current and Future Capital Budget:

None

Risk Assessment

There are no significant risks associated with this project.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

This annual report fulfills the direction of the Centre City Plan (CPC2007-049) which includes a recommendation for regular monitoring and reporting on the Centre City.

ATTACHMENT

Calgary's Centre City 2014-2015 Annual Update