

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges for Calgary businesses. To better support our local economy and lessen the financial burden, Administration has waived and deferred fees for various Planning & Development applications from 2020 May 01 to 2021 April 30. Due to continued challenges, Administration proposes extending fee relief measures until 2021 December 31.

Context

In April 2020, Administration was directed to make temporary and permanent changes to the Planning Applications Fee Schedule including changes to \$0 renewal fees for business licenses and deletion of the \$125,000 deposit and cost recovery fees for Combined Outline Plan Land Use and ancillary applications in areas under a Growth Management Overlay.

Temporary amendments to the 2020 Planning Applications Fee Schedule took effect 2020 May 01 up to and including 2020 October 31 including the waiving of fees for: Home Occupation – Class 2 Development Permits, Permitted and Discretionary Change of Use Development Permits, Residential Certificates of Compliance, and CPAG Pre-Applications. Council directed Administration to return to the 2020 May 11 Strategic Council Meeting with a report on Municipal Relief.

On 2020 May 11, Council received a Briefing Note - COVID-19 Relief Package to Support Businesses and report C2020-0542 which provided clarification about the four support measures that were being implemented. This included detailed information around Planning & Development's waived and deferred fees, existing permit flexibility and fee simplification. Administration also provided a report (C2020-0543) outlining COVID-19 Relief Package to Support Temporary Patios and waived fees for temporary patios on public space, extending to the end of the 2020 patio season. This supported operators in generating more revenue while also creating extra space needed for physical distancing.

On 2020 June 15, Administration returned to Council to provide an amendment for additional support for COVID-19 Relief Package to Support Patios on Private Property (C2020- 0650). The change to the Planning Applications Fee Schedule would align the fees for public and private property. Council approved the temporary amendment identified in to the 2020 Planning Applications Fee Schedule to change the Outdoor Café Development Permit to \$0, to take effect 2020 May 01 up to and including 2021 October 31.

On 2020 October 5, Administration presented a Verbal Report (C2020-1096) and a motion was carried to approve changes to the Planning Applications Fee Schedule. Additionally, Administration was granted a deferral for the approval for the 2021 portion of the recommendation to be presented as part of the One Calgary Mid-Cycle Adjustments process.

On 2020 November 26, Council approved the remaining four months of relief, reflected in the presented 2021 fee schedules. At that time, Administration committed to monitoring the usage of fee relief measures and committed to providing an update to Council no later than Q2 2021.

Previous Council Direction

