

Background and Previous Council Direction

Background

The review of the User Fees and Subsidies Policy is required in line with the review cycle determined by the Council Policy Program (CC046). This report is the third report out of three planned for the User Fee and Subsidies Policy review. An update on the policy review was last provided to the Executive Committee and Council in 2023 July and 2023 September.

Previous Council Direction

DATE	REPORT NUMBER	DIRECTION/DESCRIPTION
2023 September 12	EC2023-0558	<p>PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE THE UPDATE TO THE USER FEES AND SUBSIDIES POLICY</p> <p>Council approved the principles on page 2 of Attachment 2 to guide the update of the User Fees and Subsidies Policy; and directed Administration to return to the 2024 February Meeting of the Community Development Committee with the updated policy, and to hear from members of the public who wish to speak to the proposed policy at that time.</p>
2022 July 26	EC2022-0687	<p>USER FEES AND SUBSIDIES POLICY REVIEW UPDATE</p> <p>Council received a User Fees and Subsidies Policy Review update that detailed the approach, public engagement results to date and the policy review process.</p>
2020 June 29	C2020-0742	<p>REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCIAL TASK FORCE</p> <p>Council received recommendations from the Financial Task Force and approved Administrative Action 4c, a review of the User Fee and Subsidy Policy, to address portions of Recommendations 16 and 21 (as shown in italics):</p> <p><i>Recommendation 16: Investigate cross-subsidization for non-Calgary residents and businesses in the Calgary region that benefit from City services for potential cost-sharing. Investigate new revenue opportunities that address cross-subsidization borne by The City of Calgary in favour of others in the region, including differential User Fees.</i></p> <p><i>Recommendation 21: Work with The City of Calgary's Economic Resilience Task Force to assess the extent to which The City of Calgary has fully explored revenue from existing authorities. Address the speculation that The City is not using revenue authorities to full effect. Undertake a comprehensive review and gap analysis on the use of traditional revenue sources. The review should consider legislative changes required to acquire authority and administrative practices that need changing for execution.</i></p>

		<p><i>One of the tools to consider is User Fees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply total cost for municipal services complemented with Calgary resident discounts for certain services (such as park and ride) to achieve differential user fees. • Develop and implement the sale of memberships and long-term subscriptions for access to a wide range of services, such as golf courses. • Charges for the use of proprietary assets, such as data. • Deliver non-essential services only if the costs are fully recoverable through user fees.
2018 May 16	C2018-0586	<p>ONE CALGARY: FURTHER PROGRAM COMPONENTS Council approved long-term tax support rates. These are a 10-year target for the proportion of a service that should be funded with general tax support versus individual fees.</p>
2012 February 7	PFC2012-16	<p>USER FEES AND SUBSIDIES POLICY: ADDITION OF A NEW POLICY GOAL Council approved updates to the User Fees and Subsidies Policy.</p>
2011 September 19	C2011-77	<p>USER FEES AND SUBSIDIES POLICY IMPLEMENTATION AND NEXT STEPS Council approved business unit long-term recovery targets and directed Administration to add a 12th policy goal for determining societal benefits.</p>
2008 April 9	FCS2008-13	<p>USER FEES AND SUBSIDIES REVIEW- PHASE 2 REPORT Council approved the User Fees and Subsidies Policy including the use of the Triple Bottom Line Policy to define the Policy goals and to assess societal benefit.</p>
2005 June 20	UE2005-34	<p>TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE POLICY Council approved the Triple Bottom Line Policy</p>

Bylaws, Regulations, Council Policies

When the current User Fees and Subsidies Policy (CFO010) was approved in 2008, the Standing Policy Committee on Finance and Corporate Services heard from interested members of the public.

Public participation at Committees of Council is governed by the Procedure Bylaw 35M2017. Executive Committee is not a Standing Policy Committee, so it is not subject to section 31(2): "When a Standing Policy Committee is considering proposed recommendations on matters contained in their agendas, the SPC must hear from members of the public who wish to speak to those matters, prior to debating the proposed recommendations." To provide the opportunity to hear from any potential interested members of the public, Council has directed this report to come to the Community Development Committee, rather than the Executive Committee, where matters related to finance, budgeting and corporate planning are usually heard.