

Community Funding Mechanisms for Additional Landscape Services and Activities (ELM/SNIC)

This document outlines two funding mechanisms that are utilized by Parks and Open Spaces' partners to fund community priorities relating to landscape maintenance activities, snow removal, and ice control that are above and beyond the City's base level of service. These funding mechanisms are currently utilized within two programs, Enhanced Landscape Maintenance (ELM), and Snow Removal and Ice Control (SNIC).

City of Calgary Base Level Service

Every community in Calgary receives a consistent, standardized base level of service for landscape maintenance in the parks and open spaces. This includes mowing, trimming and planted bed maintenance. In addition to this, the City completes snow removal and ice control on designated pathways.

Enhanced Landscape Maintenance (ELM)

As a requirement of the ELM program the ELM Community Partners assumes the responsibility for delivering the base level of service for designated parks and open space in their neighbourhood. The ELM community partner completes landscape maintenance activities on behalf of the City and is provided an allocation of the City's operating funds for the agreed upon activities. These operating funds are determined by area size and activities undertaken and is equivalent to the amount the City would have spent on the landscape maintenance activities for the designated areas.

Community Funding Mechanisms

There are two funding mechanisms that communities may utilize to generate funds to invest in the city's parks and open spaces. Both funding mechanisms collect annual funds from property owners in a designated area and have a community partner responsible for use and oversight of the monies.

Special Tax Levy

Upon Council approval of a successful community wide petition by a community partner, property owners pay a special tax levy. These funds are collected by the City and transferred to the community partner. Use of these funds limited to landscape activities or services identified in the petition and monitored by the City.

Caveat on Title

Property owners pay annual fees to a Residents' or Homeowners' Association through a caveat registered on a property title. Use of these funds are used at the discretion of the association. All additional landscape activities require City permissions and approval.

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