



July 3rd, 2024

The City of Calgary
PO Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB,
T2P 2M5

Attention: **Chair, Sonya Sharp**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Re: **Item # 7.1, IP2024-0806, Chief Administrative Officer's (CAO's) Report to Infrastructure and Planning Committee
Bears paw South Feeder Main Break - Independent Review**

We submit this letter of support for an independent review of the Bears paw South Feeder Main Break.

First, we wish to express our sincere gratitude to all of Council and Administration for their focus on the repair of the break and efforts to date to fully restore unrestricted potable water service to Calgarians and Calgary businesses. Additionally, we wish to acknowledge the contributions of the heavy equipment contractors in Calgary, some of whom are BILD members, who mobilized so quickly to assist the City in the repair of the break and the replacement of segments of the Bears paw South Feeder Main where the additional 'hot spots' were discovered. Most importantly we would like to acknowledge the sacrifice made by Calgarian's and Calgary businesses to reduce water use over these past five weeks. Thank you to all!

BILD strongly supports a full, complete and transparent review of the water feeder main break and its impact on Calgarians and Calgary businesses. BILD believes such a review is required to:

1. Fully understand all direct and indirect causes of the break.
2. Fully understand, in easy-to-relate-to terms, the impact of the break on Calgarians and Calgary businesses.
3. Fully understand the response to the break, including how that response was managed and what opportunities for improvement in the response may be learned from the experience gained.
4. Identify any changes that need to be made to the City's asset management and risk management systems to reduce the risk and impact of a re-occurrence to as low as reasonably practicable.
5. Restore the reputation of the City of Calgary's water network as reliable.

While these key items seem to be included in the Purpose of the Draft Guidelines as outlined in IP2024-0806, Attachment 1, we emphasize the necessity of a thorough review. It is crucial to address public and stakeholder concerns and to restore confidence in the reliability of Calgary's water distribution system.

Re: **Item # 7.1, IP2024-0806, Chief Administrative Officer's (CAO's) Report to IPC**

BILD has the following two recommendations to IPC in respect of the CAO's Report and the Draft Guidelines. BILD recommends Committee and Council direct changes to the scope of the Independent Review as noted below.

- a) BILD members note that the proposed scope of the Independent Review specifically excludes water efficiency and water loss. BILD members are struggling to understand how the purpose of the Independent Review can be fully achieved and the public interest is served with such exclusions. BILD recommends Guidelines and Scope of Review include network-wide water efficiency and water loss. Including these best serves the purpose of reducing the risk and the impact of a reoccurrence.
- b) Under "External Engagement and Communication" in the CAO's report it indicates no public engagement was undertaken, no member of the public or interested parties were informed, no dialogue with interested parties was undertaken and public communication or engagement was not required. BILD recommends a process for public and key stakeholders' participation, the groups most impacted by the water main break and the stage 4 water restrictions, be incorporated in the Guidelines. This should also include how the public and stakeholders can submit questions to Administration to help inform the Review Panel and how those questions will be responded to.

Once again, thank you to Council, Administration and all those in the private sector who participated in the extraordinary mobilization of equipment and human resources to repair the Bearspaw South water main break and the repair of the identified hot spots. We commend Calgarian's who reduced their water consumption during this critical time. This is another example Calgary's "can do" spirit. Thank you to IPC members for your consideration of our recommendations.

BILD and its members are available and willing to assist and participate in this important Independent Review. We look forward to participating in the Independent Panel's review and learning of their findings and recommendations in due course.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the foregoing, please contact Ms. Jackie Stewart at jackie.stewart@bildcr.com.

Yours truly,



Brian R. Hahn
Chief Executive Officer

cc: CAO, David Duckworth
COO, Stuart Dalgleish
BILD Board of Directors