

# Background and Previous Council Direction

This attachment provides background and previous Council direction related to the Civic Census.

## Background

The City of Calgary previously conducted a municipal census. The Civic Census was an official count of dwelling units and the population who are living in these units, by the door-to-door physical collection (and later, online) collecting of data.

The City of Calgary first conducted a municipal census in 1931 and continued periodically until 1958 when the frequency was increased to an annual count of population until 2019.

## Previous Council Direction

DATE	REPORT NUMBER	DIRECTION/DESCRIPTION
2024 May 14	CPC2024-0213	<p><b>Calgary's Housing Strategy 2024-2030 - Land Use Amendment Citywide, LOC2024-0017, and Land Use Bylaw Amendments</b></p> <p>At a Special Meeting of Council on 2024 May 14, Council gave third reading to Bylaw 21P2024, as amended, and approved three Motions Arising. Council provided many directions to Administration as part of this Public Hearing. This report responds to Direction 11 listed below.</p> <p>That Council:</p> <p>11. Direct Administration to research and return to Council before the 2025 Mid-Cycle Budget program with recommendations (including budget and organizational accountability) to resurrect the municipal census program with the intention of conducting a Calgary biennial census in 2027 and thereafter.</p>
2022 December 20	C2022-1290	<p><b>Housekeeping Changes to Council Policies</b></p> <p>Council directed the rescinding of the Civic Census Policy (CC005) that had been in place</p>

		since 1984 as part of housekeeping at the end of 2022.
2020 November 09	C2020-1215	<p><b>Mid-Cycle Adjustments to the One Calgary 2019-2022 Service Plans and Budgets</b></p> <p>In 2020 November, funding for the annual census program was eliminated as part of the Mid-Cycle adjustments to the Service Plans and Budgets related to the Solutions for Achieving Value and Excellence (SAVE) program.</p>

## Bylaws, Regulations, Council Policies

The *Municipal Government Act* allows municipalities to conduct a census (see Section 57). Requirements to conduct a census are contained within Municipal Census Regulation (2023) and the Municipal Census Manual (2022).

Information during a census must be collected, used, disclosed, protected, retained and disposed of in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.