



# Future of Biodiversity Advisory

C2024-0803  
July 30, 2024



# Previous Council Direction

2023 July 04

C2023-0762

Further to Council's direction respecting EC2023-0473, that Council direct Administration to return to Council no later than the end of Q2 2024 with:

a proposed bylaw to merge the BiodiverCity Advisory Committee and the Climate Advisory Committee; and

*(held confidential pursuant to Section 24 (Advice from officials) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, to be reviewed by 2033 June 01.*



# Recommendations:

That Council:

1. Direct Administration to authorize the continuation of the existing and expiring terms of public member appointments to the BiodiverCity Advisory Committee until 2025 Q2 and refrain from appointing new members to the BiodiverCity Advisory Committee in the 2024 annual recruitment for Boards, Commissions and Committees;
2. Direct Administration to return to Council by 2025 Q2 with an update to the Climate Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to explicitly include the mandate of biodiversity and update the member composition to include biodiversity expertise;
3. Effective 2025 Q2, disband the BiodiverCity Advisory Committee.



## BiodiverCity Advisory Committee (Biodiversity Committee)

- Established in 2015
- Support Our BiodiverCity, Calgary's 10-year Biodiversity Strategy (2015- 2025)



## Climate Advisory Committee (Climate Committee)

- Established in 2022
- Support Calgary's Climate Strategy: Pathways to 2050

# Future of Biodiversity Advisory

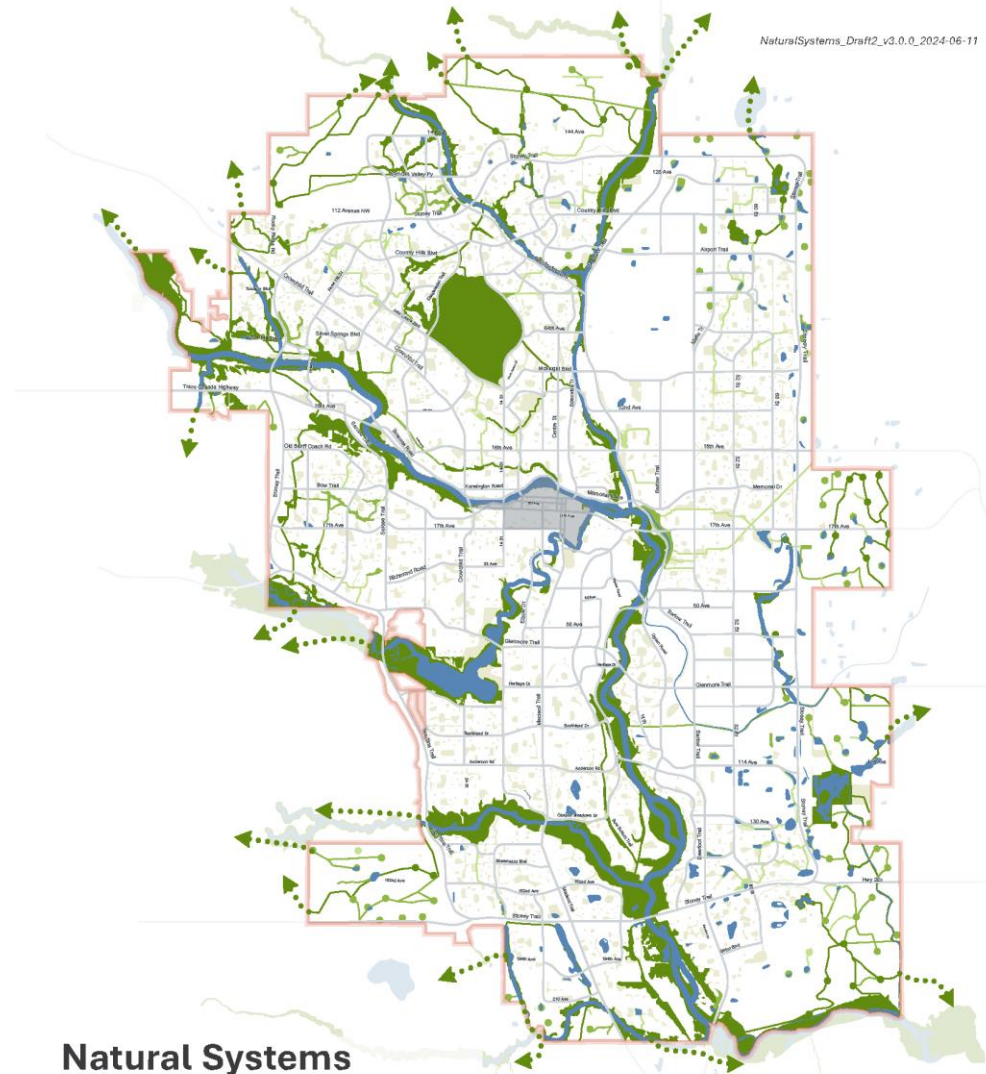
- Administration engaged with both committees and BCC Admin
- Council's direction to merge the two committees would effectively dissolve both; each committee had concerns around a merger
- The Climate Committee wants to maintain momentum; the Biodiversity Committee wants to avoid a dilution of their mandate
- Administration's position is that leveraging the Climate Committee's momentum and structure (as primarily third-party) will result in enhanced advocacy on both climate and biodiversity matters





# Biodiversity aligned work in 2023-2026 Workplans

- Increased protection and conservation of Environmentally Significant Areas
- Parks habitat restoration
- Development and implementation of Habitat Management Plans
- Connecting more Calgarians with parks and open spaces and engaging on the value of accessing nature in the city
- Increasing the resilience of our urban forest to invasive pests



## Natural Systems

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Ecological Network   | Parks            |
| Major                | Greater Downtown |
| Supporting           | Water            |
| Local                |                  |
| Regional Connections |                  |
| Major                |                  |



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