



Public Submission

CC 968 (R2024-05)

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ENDORSEMENT STATEMENT ON TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION, ANTI-RACISM, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

The purpose of The City of Calgary is to make life better every day. To fully realize our purpose, we are committed to addressing racism and other forms of discrimination within our programs, policies, and services and eliminating barriers that impact the lives of Indigenous, Racialized, and other marginalized people. It is expected that participants will behave respectfully and treat everyone with dignity and respect to allow for conversations free from bias and prejudice.

First name [required] Jonathan

Last name [required] Klein

How do you wish to attend?

You may bring a support person should you require language or translator services. Do you plan on bringing a support person?

What meeting do you wish to comment on? [required] (if you Council

Date of meeting [required] (if you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please select "November 18") Oct 8, 2024

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#).) (if you are providing input on service plans and budget adjustments, please write "budget" below.)

[required] - max 75 characters LOC2024-0120, CPC2024-0949



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Are you in favour or opposition of the issue? [required]

In opposition

ATTACHMENT\_01\_FILENAME

Letter to Calgary City Council.pdf

ATTACHMENT\_02\_FILENAME

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

See attached letter.

September 30, 2024

Jonathan Klein  
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Calgary, Alberta T2E 9C7

Calgary City Council  
c/o City Clerk's Office  
Mail Code #8007  
P.O. Box 2100, Station M  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5

Dear Councillors:

**Subject: Land Use Amendment in Bridgeland/Riverside (Ward 9) at 118 – 8 Street NE, LOC2024-0120, CPC2024-0949**

I oppose this land use amendment application since having a health care service or financial institution on the ground floor at this location will negatively impact the vitality of the community and is contrary to the objectives of the Calgary Main Streets Program. Explained as follows.

- 1) A health care service or financial institution will not create significant pedestrian traffic on the street. For example the number of people visiting a doctor's office or a bank each day is far less than the number of people visiting a convenience store or restaurant. Also, these uses will be closed in evenings and on weekends which are the same times when most people are not at work and hence are available to visit retail shops and services in their community.

These are the reasons why the current land use district, MU-2, prohibits these uses from the ground floor and having a façade width greater than 9.0 meters.

- 2) The "core principals" of the Calgary Main Streets Program contain the following statements:

"On the social side, the street is ... with opportunities for people to interact and gather.

Character and identity can be achieved through ... "bustle", busyness, or energy.

... these elements create a unique sense of place and offer memorable experiences for both residents and visitors.

The businesses and uses along a Main Street give the street energy ...

... redevelopment opportunities encourage more people to ... live and play on Calgary's Main Streets."

.../2

These statements reflect a vision of a street with high levels of pedestrian activity, where people come to eat, shop and socialize, morning, afternoon and evenings all days of the week. A health care service or financial institution at ground level will not help to achieve that vision.

- 3) Administration has proposed rules requiring transparent glass and limits on the area of opaque treatments for the windows in exchange for an increase in the façade length to 15.0 meters. Presumably this is an attempt to compensate for the negative impact that these uses will have on street vibrancy. If this is any compensation at all, it is to such a minor extent that it is effectively none.

**What fosters vibrancy is not the exterior appearance of a business, but the activities that take place inside the business.** It is not how a building looks from the outside that brings pedestrians onto the street.

- 4) With the increase in the façade length the applicant aims to create one business where there could potentially be more than one. This decreases the variety of businesses in the community, which also negatively impacts the vitality of the community because there are then fewer possible destinations to draw people out to the street. It also undermines the creation of walkable communities, an objective of the City.

In my opinion the land use district at this location should remain as-is and the owners should simply lower the rent in order to fill vacant units.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Klein

c.c.: Ward 9 Councillor's Office  
Bridgeland-Riverside Community Association  
Bridgeland BIA