



Report Number: EC2025-0123

Meeting: Executive Committee

Meeting Date: 2025 January 21

## NOTICE OF MOTION

**RE:** GamePLAN Support for Third Party-Delivered Athletic Facilities

**Sponsoring Member(s) of Council:** Gian-Carlo Carra

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**WHEREAS** a strong recreation sector, contributing to a high quality of life, is a critical component of Calgary's consistent placement at the top of world-wide livability indices;

**AND WHEREAS** Calgary's unprecedented population growth, coupled with a multi-decade under-investment in recreation facilities, is challenging our recreation sector's ability to deliver a per-capita recreation experience for both residents and visitors in line with our global livability rankings - particularly in underserved communities;

**AND WHEREAS** front-line, Calgary-based, youth-focused organizations, such as the Calgary Minor Soccer Association (CMSA) with their "Fields for Our Future" campaign, are sounding the alarm regarding this growing gap - in the CMSA's case, between the exploding participation in youth soccer and the lack of sufficient indoor field space to accommodate demand;

**AND WHEREAS** a goal in the City of Calgary's Winter City Strategy is to "apply a year-round lens to future design or use of public spaces" and that consideration for indoor sports facilities in both winter, due to cold and snow, and summer, due to increasing numbers of low air quality days is critical;

**AND WHEREAS** the size and immediacy of the supply-demand gap is so significant that an all-hands-on-deck, sector wide approach must be undertaken and the opportunity for third parties to help could be strategically supported by the City of Calgary with due consideration that public funds must be used for public benefit, including improving access and availability for individuals and groups, while also providing economic benefits for the Calgary economy;

**AND WHEREAS** City of Calgary is currently undertaking a comprehensive strategic plan to address this supply-demand gap called GamePLAN;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Council encourages Administration to include within GamePLAN a program designed to support vetted third party delivery of available-to-the-public recreation facilities that could include, but is not limited to, providing or guaranteeing loans for viable entities and business plans, the provision of grants, the use of the Park Foundation's charitable status to increase philanthropic support, a reduced or waived fee structure and fast-tracked timelines for development approvals, and potential partnership opportunities with the provision of ancillary infrastructure benefitting public recreation users;

**AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that City of Calgary pilots the development of this broader program through a specific and immediate consideration of the following shovel-ready project, The Calgary Villains Football Club Dome (<https://calgaryvillainssoccer.ca/villains-training-facility/bubble/>).

**Attachment:**

1. Notice of Motion Checklist