

Report Number: EC2025-0230

Meeting: Executive Committee

Meeting Date: 2025 February 11

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: Calgary Police Service funding

Sponsoring Member(s) of Council: Councillor Sharp, Councillor Wong, Councillor Wyness, Councillor

Chabot

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has prohibited photo radar on all provincial highways and on residential streets with speeds less than 50 km/h, unless they are school and playground zones or construction zones;

AND WHEREAS the Calgary Police Service is said to be facing a shortfall in its operating budget for 2025 as a result;

AND WHEREAS the Calgary Police Service has already implemented efficiencies and cost saving measures, including reallocating funding to the Community Safety Investment Framework, anti-racism reforms, conducting reviews that repurposed 28 positions to better address community priorities; conducting a zero-based budget review through the Service Optimization Review to shape future budget asks, right-sizing their vehicle fleet, and more;

AND WHEREAS cost saving measures directed by the previous Council resulted in no new positions being added to the Calgary Police Service from 2019 to 2021, while the city population continued to grow;

AND WHEREAS Calgary already has one of the lowest police-to-citizen ratios in the country, and these cuts will only exacerbate the strain on an already stretched force;

AND WHEREAS maintaining adequate funding for the Calgary Police Service is essential to uphold effective law enforcement and community safety;

AND WHEREAS the Calgary Police Service deploys photo radar with the goal of reducing excess speeds which contribute to the severity of collisions;

AND WHEREAS at automated traffic enforcement locations in Calgary over a period of 10 years, total collisions were down 33.4 per cent, injury collisions down 55.7 per cent, fatal collisions down 75 per cent; right-angle collisions with injuries down 67.6 per cent, and rear-end collisions with injury down 51.5 per cent;

AND WHEREAS the Calgary Police Service should be funded on the basis of need, as informed by the Calgary Police Commission, regardless of photo radar revenue;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Council direct Administration to offer support to the Calgary Police Commission to bring forward a report on funding shortfall options to the Regular Meeting of Council on 18 March 2025, if the Calgary Police Commission determines it is necessary;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That Council direct Administration to inquire with the Commission on their intent to consider severing the ties between enforcement and revenue by directing future photo radar revenue towards a reserve fund to be used for all traffic safety measures and explore changes for the 2026 Service

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AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That Council direct Administration support the Calgary Police Commission with any statistics and other data to advocate to the Government of Alberta for additional photo radar locations in high collision areas as exemptions to their restrictions;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That Council direct Administration to bring forward a report to the Regular Meeting of Council on 18 March 2025 with information on The City of Calgary's speed and traffic calming measures, including the annual cost and comparisons to photo radar effectiveness.