



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Personal information provided in submissions relating to matters before Council or Council Committees is collected under the authority of Bylaw 35M2017 and Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act of Alberta, and/or the Municipal Government Act (MGA) Section 636, for the purpose of receiving public participation in municipal decision-making and scheduling speakers for Council or Council Committee meetings. Your name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council or Council Committee agenda and minutes. If you have questions regarding the collection and use of your personal information, please contact City Clerk's Legislative Coordinator at 403-268-5861, or City Clerk's Office, 700 Macleod Trail S.E., P.O. Box 2100, Postal Station 'M' 8007, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2M5.

Please note that your name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council or Council Committee agenda and minutes. Your e-mail address will not be included in the public record.

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] Yasmin

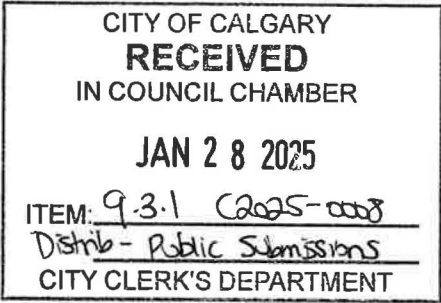
Last name [required] Esmail

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] Council

Date of meeting [required] Jan 28, 2025



What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published [here](#) )

[required] - max 75 characters Business Improvement Areas - 2025 Board Appointments, Budgets and Enabling

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



ATTACHMENT\_01\_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT\_02\_FILENAME

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

I am a business owner within the 17th Ave Retail & Entertainment district and am not in agreement to the increases submitted in the budget by the BIA committee. There has been no yearly AGM or input sought from the business owners as to where the money should go. We are struggling what with all the costs going up (rent, food, taxes, etc.) and we all have to do our own advertising and promoting our business. Many businesses during Stampede did not get patios (which BIA budgeted for) even though emails were sent to them requesting this. We had to spend our own money to buy the lumber, pay contractor to assemble and dismantle and pay storage costs. This is one of the services we pay for. We are not getting a return with the money we already pay and there has been no additional beautification in the area. Additional staff have been hired by the BIA and businesses have no idea where the money collected is going. There is lots of theft on 17th Ave. Signs are being stolen, thefts by customers, etc. which is an additional cost to businesses, not counting costs to run our businesses on a daily basis. Many businesses have closed and can barely make ends meet. Collecting more money from us when it is not benefiting us is not fiscally responsible. At a time when more businesses are closing and cannot afford the rent, and we are not benefiting from the BIA services, asking for an increase in the BIA taxes is not reasonable.



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Personal information provided in submissions relating to matters before Council or Council Committees is collected under the authority of Bylaw 35M2017 and Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act of Alberta, and/or the Municipal Government Act (MGA) Section 636, for the purpose of receiving public participation in municipal decision-making and scheduling speakers for Council or Council Committee meetings. Your name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council or Council Committee agenda and minutes. If you have questions regarding the collection and use of your personal information, please contact City Clerk's Legislative Coordinator at 403-268-5861, or City Clerk's Office, 700 Macleod Trail S.E., P.O. Box 2100, Postal Station 'M' 8007, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2M5.

Please note that your name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council or Council Committee agenda and minutes. Your e-mail address will not be included in the public record.

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] Phay

Last name [required] Vashon

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] Council

Date of meeting [required] Jan 28, 2025

What agenda item do you wish to comment on? (Refer to the Council or Committee agenda published here.)

[required] - max 75 characters Business Improvement Areas - 2025 Board Appointments, Budgets and Enabling

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

ATTACHMENT\_01\_FILENAME

ATTACHMENT\_02\_FILENAME

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

I am a business partner at an establishment within the 17th Ave Retail & Entertainment district. We are not in agreement to the increases submitted in the budget by the BIA committee. At a time when businesses are struggling to make ends meet and many are closing because of high costs, it is not reasonable to increase the BIA taxes. We are also concerned that money is collected from businesses but yet we are not consulted with where our money is going. There has been no annual meetings and no audited accounting statements where the money has been spent. No input from the business owners as to where the money should go and address the needs of businesses in this area. We are struggling what with all the costs going up such as food, rent, advertising and taxes to name a few. During Stampede, we were advised that money collected would be used towards patios (which BIA budgeted for) and many of us had to pay out of pocket for this. Absolutely no assistance from the 17th Ave Retail and Entertainment District. Although they focus on signature events and this brings people out, there is no extra revenue to businesses. The additional traffic causes more parking issues and people don't spend money at the businesses. Investing in more full time staff is not justified and there is no beautification to the area. Homeless population is getting to be more of an issue in addition to thefts of outdoor signs, flower pots, etc. We have to spend money out of pocket for all the losses incurred. We as businesses are not getting anything extra out of the funds collected and we question further justification to increases. We are not getting a return with the money collected from the BIA tax. They want to hire additional staff and there is no need for this. We are recommending no to additional increase in the BIA tax. Collecting more money from us when it is not benefiting the 17th Ave Retail and Entertainment District is an issue. Thank you.