

Planning and Development Services Briefing to

Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

2025 March 20

ISC: UNRESTRICTED

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Calgary Metropolitan Region Board – 2025 February Board Meeting Update

PURPOSE OF BRIEFING

The purpose of this briefing is to update the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee on the work of the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board (CMRB) from their Board meeting held on 2025 February 07.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Mayor Jyoti Gondek represented The City of Calgary at the meeting. Councillor Gian-Carlo Carra was also in attendance as The City's alternate representative.

In closed session, the Board built on the 2024 December discussions on how to respond to the Government of Alberta announcement to cease funding for the CMRB and transition from mandatory to voluntary membership. CMRB Administration provided new information around potential options for future voluntary regional collaboration to inform the Board's discussions, including information around the option to wind down operations.

Following the closed session discussions, the Board unanimously approved the following motion:

- That the Board send a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs notifying the Government of Alberta of the following:
 - That the Board has directed administration to initiate the process for the orderly winding down of the operations of the organization.
- That the Board requests the immediate repeal of Ministerial Order MSD:064/22 to remove the requirement for the Regional Evaluation Framework and to repeal the Growth Plan.
- That the Board requests the Minister repeal the CMRB Regulation effective May 1, 2025.

NOTE: Following the Board meeting, on 2025 February 18 the Minister of Municipal Affairs rescinded Ministerial Order MSD:064/22 as requested by the Board, repealing both the Growth Plan and Regional Evaluation Framework.

In addition, the Board unanimously approved a subsequent motion proposed by Mayor Jyoti Gondek for the following:

- That the eight members of the CMRB agree to meet and discuss an alternate regional approach before 2025 May 01, which recognizes the significance of a coordinated approach to:
 - Regional amenities, including source water protection/distribution, transit, recreation, commercial and other;
 - Economic development opportunities; and
 - Planning and development for residential, industrial, commercial and mixed uses.

The Board received presentations from CMRB Administration and Foothills County Administration on a Regional Evaluation Framework application for the proposed Highfield and Rowland Acres Area Structure Plan and designation of a Hamlet Growth Area within Foothills County. The application requested two exceptions to policies of the Growth Plan to enable the residential development of 1,162 acres of land located near the intersection of Highway 2 and

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Highway 547. After some discussion, the Board approved the Regional Evaluation Framework application.

The next Board meeting is scheduled on 2025 March 14.

Author: Kristine Cave, City & Regional Planning

General Manager Debra Hamilton concurs with the information in this Briefing.