

Community Services Report to
Executive Committee
2025 June 17

ISC: UNRESTRICTED
EC2025-0585

Council Community Fund Application – Auburn Bay Community Association

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request approval of the Council Community Fund application from the Auburn Bay Community Association (ABCA) to support the Community Shade Structure project to enhance the space within the group's License of Occupation site.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

In 2019, Council introduced a new fund dedicated to community-driven projects called the Council Community Fund. Background and Previous Council Direction is included in Attachment 1. The Terms of Reference were updated in 2024, with the revised version in Attachment 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Executive Committee recommend that Council:

1. Approve the Council Community Fund application from the Auburn Bay Community Association for the Community Shade Structure project as a one-time funding request in the amount of \$125,000; and
2. Direct Administration to report back to the Executive Committee within 12 months of project completion.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 2025 JUNE 17:

That Council:

1. Approve the Council Community Fund application from the Auburn Bay Community Association for the Community Shade Structure project as a one-time funding request in the amount of \$125,000; and
2. Direct Administration to report back to the Executive Committee within 12 months of project completion.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

General Managers Les Tocher and Katie Black concur with the contents of this report.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Funding Request:** The Auburn Bay Community Association (ABCA) is applying for \$125,000 from the Council Community Fund to support their Community Shade Structure project.
- **Community Impact:** The Community Shade Structure project will allow for an updated, multi-use space that is free and accessible to residents of Auburn Bay and surrounding communities.
- **Sponsorship:** This application is sponsored by Councillor Spencer, the Ward Councillor for the area, and aligns with the Council Community Fund Terms of Reference.

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- **Project Details:** This project will establish a multi-use community shade structure that serves as a vibrant gathering place for both Auburn Bay residents and all Calgarians. It will foster stronger neighbourhood connections and support inclusive participation in community programs and events. Designed to emphasize the value of accessible public spaces, the structure will accommodate a wide range of needs and activities for people of all ages and backgrounds.

DISCUSSION

The ABCA currently has a License of Occupation with a community garden and surrounding outdoor space. The space provides residents from Auburn Bay and surrounding communities with a place to gather to garden, relax and take part in a variety of community-based programs and events.

The Gardens (as the current outdoor space is known locally) is a well-used community amenity. The community association hosts a diverse range of community-focused events and programs, including educational workshops, an annual Stampede Breakfast, Autumn in the Bay, the Parade of Lights, a Good Food Box depot, community clean-up initiatives, and creative craft programming for children. In 2021, the ABCA board established priorities that included enhancing the usability of the Gardens. The ABCA has been planning the Community Shade Structure project since 2022, finalizing a staged design in early 2023. As outlined in Attachment 3, the ABCA is requesting \$125,000 from the Council Community Fund, with the remaining funding being raised through matching grants and the community association's own funds.

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public engagement was undertaken | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dialogue with interested parties was undertaken |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public/interested parties were informed | <input type="checkbox"/> Public communication or engagement was not required |

Public engagement initially began with the site design elements in 2022. With the first phase now completed (the existing community garden), the ABCA has been continuing conversations through several channels including special events and presentations at the annual general meetings. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. An engagement summary has been included in Attachment 3.

IMPLICATIONS

Social

The Community Shade Structure project supports the ongoing provision of healthy activities, community connections and improvement of the overall quality of life in Calgary. The existing amenities have been a well-used public investment, which will continue to attract residents from Auburn Bay, and those from neighbouring communities. The Community Shade Structure project will expand the opportunities for Calgarians to interact and connect.

Environmental

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The ABCA is conscious of the environmental impact of the Community Shade Structure project. The location of the structure is not near any trees or natural features that would be impacted by this installation.

Economic

The addition of the shade structure will allow the ABCA to expand its programs and events, which will attract and support local community businesses through future partnership and sponsorship opportunities. This will contribute to economic stability and community pride. The current garden amenity has historically attracted avid community gardeners and families who use the adjacent green space to interact with large activities that the Community Association offers like disc golf, games such as four square volleyball and corn-hole toss.

Service and Financial Implications

Other: Council Community Fund

The ABCA has sought grant funding through other sources, including the provincial government's Community Facility Enhancement Program as well as contributing funds from their organization. Attachment 3 outlines the Community Shade Structure project budget, including confirmed and anticipated funding sources. The \$125,000 from the Council Community Fund will support the completion of the project.

If this application is successful, the remaining balance of the Council Community Fund would be \$700,406.

RISK

If this application is unsuccessful, the ABCA will have to source other funding to complete the Community Shade Structure project. As most grants require matching funds, the project could be delayed which would require a revision of timelines as well as a potential increase in costs.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Background and Previous Council Direction
2. Terms of Reference for the Council Community Fund
3. Application for Council Community
4. Presentation

Department Circulation

General Manager/Director	Department	Approve/Consult/Inform
Katie Black	Community Services	Approve
Les Tochor	Corporate Planning & Financial Services	Approve
Doug Morgan	Operational Services	Inform

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City Clerk's: K. Picketts / A. de Grood