



Report Number: EC2025-0655

Meeting: Executive Committee

Meeting Date: 2025 June 17

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: Advancing Tree Equity Through the 2 Billion Trees Program

Sponsoring Member(s) of Council: Cllr. Raj Dhaliwal & Cllr. Jennifer Wyness

WHEREAS...

1. The City of Calgary has entered into a nearly \$61 million funding agreement (the "Agreement") with the Government of Canada as part of their 2 Billion Trees (2BT) program. The Agreement aims to plant 930,000 new trees across the city by 2029, as part of a broader effort to enhance urban canopy coverage and strengthen environmental resilience.
2. The City has set targets to increase Calgary's overall tree canopy from 8% (2022) to 9% by 2026, and a projected tree canopy of 16% by 2060, as part of its climate resilience and urban greening goals, though the city is currently not on track to meet these targets due to factors that include inadequate funding, aging trees, increasingly severe weather events and development.
3. Many communities in the City of Calgary have tree canopy percentages well below the city average. Some of the largest overall discrepancies in tree canopy coverage are found in neighborhoods that have, limited to no access to forested natural areas, were developed at a time with minimal tree planting requirements, contain a younger population of trees or with smaller average canopies, include large areas of impervious surfaces, less trees planted on private land, or have limited public space or soil volume to install trees. These additional challenges highlight the need for solutions when deploying additional public resources for new trees to areas with a developing canopy.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED ...

1. That Council direct Administration, to the extent possible in compliance with the Agreement, to prioritize equity-deserving neighborhoods for tree planting efforts funded through the 2 Billion Trees program. That Council direct Administration, to the extent possible in compliance with the Agreement, to prepare an annual implementation plan for tree planting that includes
 - a. Community-specific planting targets aligned with Calgary's goal of achieving an average 9% canopy by 2026 and an average 16% by 2060, with a particular focus on underserved neighborhoods in Calgary.
2. That Council direct Administration, to the extent possible in compliance with the Agreement, to present an annual report to Council on the progress, challenges, and milestones of the 2 Billion Trees program implementation. Reports should include metrics on the number and types of trees planted, communities where the trees were planted, factors that played into allocation, and progress towards achieving equitable canopy

Attachment:

1. Notice of Motion Checklist