

Summary of Existing Programs

The following is a summary of existing City of Calgary programs that provide for upgraded or replacing community-level amenities in established areas.

Program	DESCRIPTION
Parks and Playground Amenities Program (PAPA)	PAPA focuses on improving park spaces that need it most and provides greater opportunities for Calgarians to connect with natural environments and each other. Through an evaluation that considers equity, missing amenities, and emerging sport, approximately 41 funded projects with an estimated total budget of \$16.5 million have been approved to date.
Established Area Growth and Change Strategy (EAGCS)	Since 2020, the EAGCS program has secured \$67 million in funding for public space investments in growing established communities, which include about 180 communities representing 80 per cent of Calgary's population. The strategy provides funding for a variety of community improvement projects for parks, mobility, and public spaces. The Balmoral Circus Park Improvements, 26 Avenue SW & Buckmaster Park Area Improvements, and the 40 Avenue NE Park & Area Improvements are all projects funded by EAGCS.
Growing Spaces Project & Grants Program (GSP&GP)	<p>The GSP&GP directly support public space improvement ideas in growing communities. These projects help respond to growth in communities by upgrading public spaces to accommodate more people and activity. Submissions for projects up to approximately \$50,000 can be made by Community Associations (CAs) and Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) in these growing communities.</p> <p>The GSP&GP was established in Spring 2025 as part of The City's EAGCS with \$500,000 of funding from the Established Area Investment Fund allocated over two years (2025-2026). The City will monitor the program's effectiveness as the program unfolds.</p>
Local Area Investment Fund (LAIF)	Projects considered for funding are identified as part the development of Local Area Plans (LAPs) and are informed by community input and guided by each plan's core values. Projects funded through LAIF span a wide variety of community improvements including recreational amenities and received \$20 million in funding. Example projects include the Killarney Summer Park, Spruce Drive Pathway Improvements, and the 68 Street SE Pathway Connection.