

# Response to Notice of Motion

The following is an itemized response to the individual points in the Notice of Motion (EC2025-0525) that provided the initial direction for this report.

Notice of Motion Directed Recommendation	Response
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct Administration to prepare options for a pilot program exploring how to fund and deliver community-level amenities through an alternate delivery model, where external partners front-load project funding and delivery;	See below.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Funding mechanisms and constraints, including financial capacity and debt policy and limits</li></ul>	Administration recommends directing all new requests for consideration in the November Adjustments. Doing so ensures that all high priority asks can be evaluated together and approved within The City's available funding capacity. Approving a budget increase now, would reduce the available capacity Administration has identified for November Budget deliberations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Budget and resource requirements, including capital and operating costs</li></ul>	Administration recommends that a \$1.5 million capital budget addition be considered for to the Parks and Playground Amenities Program (PAPA) in the 2027-2030 Service Plans and Budgets. Along with the increase in capital funding, \$25,000 in operating budget is required to maintain these new assets.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scope and eligibility criteria for the pilot program</li></ul>	<p>The Parks and Playground Amenities Program (PAPA) focuses on improving park spaces that need it most and provide greater opportunities for Calgarians to connect with their natural environment and each other. Administration recommends that updates be made, where necessary, to criteria for programs that consider demand of current community-level amenities, community population intensity, and equity index results as decision factors.</p> <p>Eligible projects must involve the addition of capital assets to a public space that permanently improves the space rather than being a one-time</p>

	<p>event or activity. The program's funding can cover the processes involved in developing the project, including planning, design, permit fees, public engagement, construction, and project finalization.</p> <p>These projects must create new features/facilities and/or add significant value to public spaces rather than focusing on maintenance or operation of existing spaces. This may include investments to increase the usability of underutilized or overutilized spaces, recreational or play spaces or passive park investments such as benches or firepits.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application and selection process</li> </ul>	<p>It is recommended to use existing programs to deliver increased community amenities such as GSP&amp;GP or PAPA. Any new program for community-level amenities should follow a similar application and selection process to that of the existing programs.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alignment with existing City policies and processes</li> </ul>	<p>Programs such as Established Area Growth and Change Strategy (EAGCS), Growing Spaces Projects &amp; Grants Program (GSP&amp;GP) and the Local Area Investment Fund (LAIF) have been built on background discussions with growing communities, business areas, and developers about the types of improvements and amenities that existing and future residents and businesses want to see. Through EAGCS Administration understands that mobility and open space upgrades are important to sustaining quality of life in a growing community. Local Area Plans also document the desired upgrades in an area over the next 15-20 years.</p> <p>These programs focus on prioritizing those upgrades to demonstrate responsiveness to desired upgrades.</p> <p>In EAGCS, projects that a community does not support are often paused or off-ramped before they get much traction. Administration desires for these projects to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supported and important to the community;</li> </ul>

- focused on opportunities for local improvements that are enabled by growth; and
- help offset the pressures of growth.

These programs are in addition to other funds by The City and developers to help sustain and improve the hard infrastructure needed to support growth in communities, because communities need both infrastructure and amenities to support quality of life and growth in an area.

- Legal and contractual, considerations including; ownership, liability, risk management, operational and maintenance requirements

Having a third-party front-end infrastructure with a future payback from The City requires that public procurement processes be followed. Alternatively, a Public-Private Partnership would be an option, but would be cost prohibitive for the size of the public amenities contemplated in this program and would be better suited to regional- level amenities as outlined in GamePlan and Connect Parks.