



September 7, 2025

Mayor Jyoti Gondek and Members of Calgary City Council  
The City of Calgary  
800 Macleod Trail SE  
Calgary, AB T2G 2M3



**Re: Request to postpone a decision on the Proposed Boundary Expansion of the Bridgeland Riverside Business Improvement Area (Item C2025-0586)**

Dear Mayor Gondek and Councillors,

On behalf of the Crescent Heights Community Association (CHCA), I am writing to express our opposition to the proposed expansion of the Bridgeland Riverside Business Improvement Area (BRBIA) boundaries **at this time**.

### **Lack of Engagement and Consultation**

The CHCA has not been engaged in any way regarding this proposal, despite the clear implications for Crescent Heights residents and businesses. We only became aware of the application recently (Aug 6th) through a local building owner, not through formal channels.

Since then:

- On August 12<sup>th</sup> we reached out to the Crescent Heights Village BIA to inquire whether they were aware of the proposed boundary expansion. In their email response, they expressed support for the expansion.
- We contacted our Councillor on Aug 15<sup>th</sup>, who confirmed awareness of the proposal but also noted that he had not been consulted, nor had he provided a letter of support.
- After receiving direction from our board, we attempted to convene discussions with both BIAs on August 28<sup>th</sup>. We received a response from BRBIA on Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> expressing

interest in meeting, but no further response was received to our email request to set a meeting date.

- As late as September 3rd, no information about this expansion appeared on the City's website or Council agenda for the September 9th meeting. After contacting our Councillor and the City Clerk regarding this, we obtained relevant materials from the Ward 7 office.

City Administration's Report confirms that both BIAs should "undertake their own engagement with businesses and interested parties". In practice, this has meant little or no engagement with Crescent Heights Community Association as a stakeholder, despite our community's direct exposure to the impacts.

The same Report also noted that the Beltline BIA explicitly removed areas from its expansion after objections from the Sunalta Community Association. This demonstrates a willingness to respect community boundaries when associations raise concerns—Crescent Heights deserves the same consideration.

This lack of transparency and engagement is unacceptable for a decision that has direct consequences for Crescent Heights.

### **Concerns with the Expansion Proposal**

1. **Direct Impact on Crescent Heights Residents:** The proposed boundary expansion sits within Crescent Heights' community boundaries. BRBIA activities in this area—ranging from streetscape improvements to promotional programming—will directly affect our residents, yet there is no framework requiring BRBIA to consult with CHCA.
2. **Uncoordinated Infrastructure Priorities:** BRBIA's submission references its advocacy for City investment in Main Streets improvements on 4th Street NE. These proposals were never shared with CHCA, nor coordinated with our own community infrastructure priorities. Without coordination, Crescent Heights risks being sidelined in decisions that affect mobility, livability, and public realm investment in our neighbourhood.
3. **Boundary Integrity of Crescent Heights:** This proposed expansion, combined with an earlier inclusion of Crescent Heights areas in the Bridgeland-Riverside Area Redevelopment Plan, raises fundamental questions about respecting the identity and planning boundaries of Crescent Heights. Our community association is consistently left out of conversations that directly shape our neighbourhood's future.

## Our Request

We respectfully request that Council **postpone any decision on the proposed BRBIA boundary expansion** until:

- CHCA has been adequately consulted,
- A framework is established to ensure CHCA's direct input into BRBIA activities within Crescent Heights, and
- There is alignment between BRBIA advocacy efforts within the expanded area and the priorities identified by CHCA through legitimate community consultation.

The CHCA is not opposed to collaborating with neighbouring BIAs or to investments that improve our shared corridors. However, such decisions must respect the voices and interests of Crescent Heights residents and businesses.

We urge Council to defer approval of Bylaw 43M2025 until these conditions are met.

Sincerely,

Marie Semenick-Evans, President  
Crescent Heights Community Association

