



Report Number: EC2026-0314

Meeting: Executive Committee

Meeting Date: 2026 May 05

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: Rescind Barrier to Public Submission

Sponsoring Member(s) of Council: Councillor Johnston,

WHEREAS On March 22, 2021, at the Combined Meeting of Council, with respect to Report PUD2021-0015, Council directed Administration to develop a more user-friendly and inclusive Public Hearing process that included, among other things, “Developing an endorsement statement for members of the public to sign when they register for Public Hearings which outlines the City of Calgary’s commitment to anti-racism, equity, diversity and inclusion”; and

AND WHEREAS although Administration conducted a legal review and explicitly advised Council against implementing any such endorsement statement—stating that it may amount to government-compelled expression, could have a chilling effect on public participation, and that the benefits do not outweigh the negatives of potentially infringing participation rights—the mandatory endorsement statement and checkbox were nevertheless implemented on the Public Submission form (CC 968) and remain in effect for all Public Hearing registration processes; and

AND WHEREAS members of the public have expressed concern that requiring endorsement of a statement of specific values as a condition of registering for or participating in a Public Hearing creates an unnecessary barrier to open, democratic engagement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee forward this Notice of Motion to the [2026, May 26th] Regular Meeting of Council for consideration; and further,

BE IT RESOLVED that Council...

1. Rescind the following decision, adopted by Council at the 2021 March 22 Combined Meeting of Council:
“That with respect to Report PUD2021-0015, the following Motion Arising be adopted:
That Council:
Direct Administration to develop a more user-friendly and inclusive Public Hearing process that includes but is not limited to:
 3. Developing an endorsement statement for members of the public to sign when they register for Public Hearings which outlines the City of Calgary’s commitment to anti-racism, equity, diversity and inclusion.”; and
2. Direct Administration to remove the mandatory endorsement statement and checkbox from the Public Submission form (CC 968) and all Public Hearing registration processes within 30 days.

ISC: UNRESTRICTED

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of Motion Checklist

No replies from any department at the time of approval. – Will bring to the floor at executive should anything come up.