

Calgary



Fire Service Provision in Growth Strategy

PUD2018-0173

05 March 2018

02/27/2018



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 - B. Fire: Consultant Analysis of Service Levels and Response Time Targets and Impact of Residential Sprinklers
 - C. Building Services: Analysis of best practices, policies and performance objectives for Fire response times as compared to National and Provincial Building Codes in other Canadian Municipalities
3. Options for Consideration
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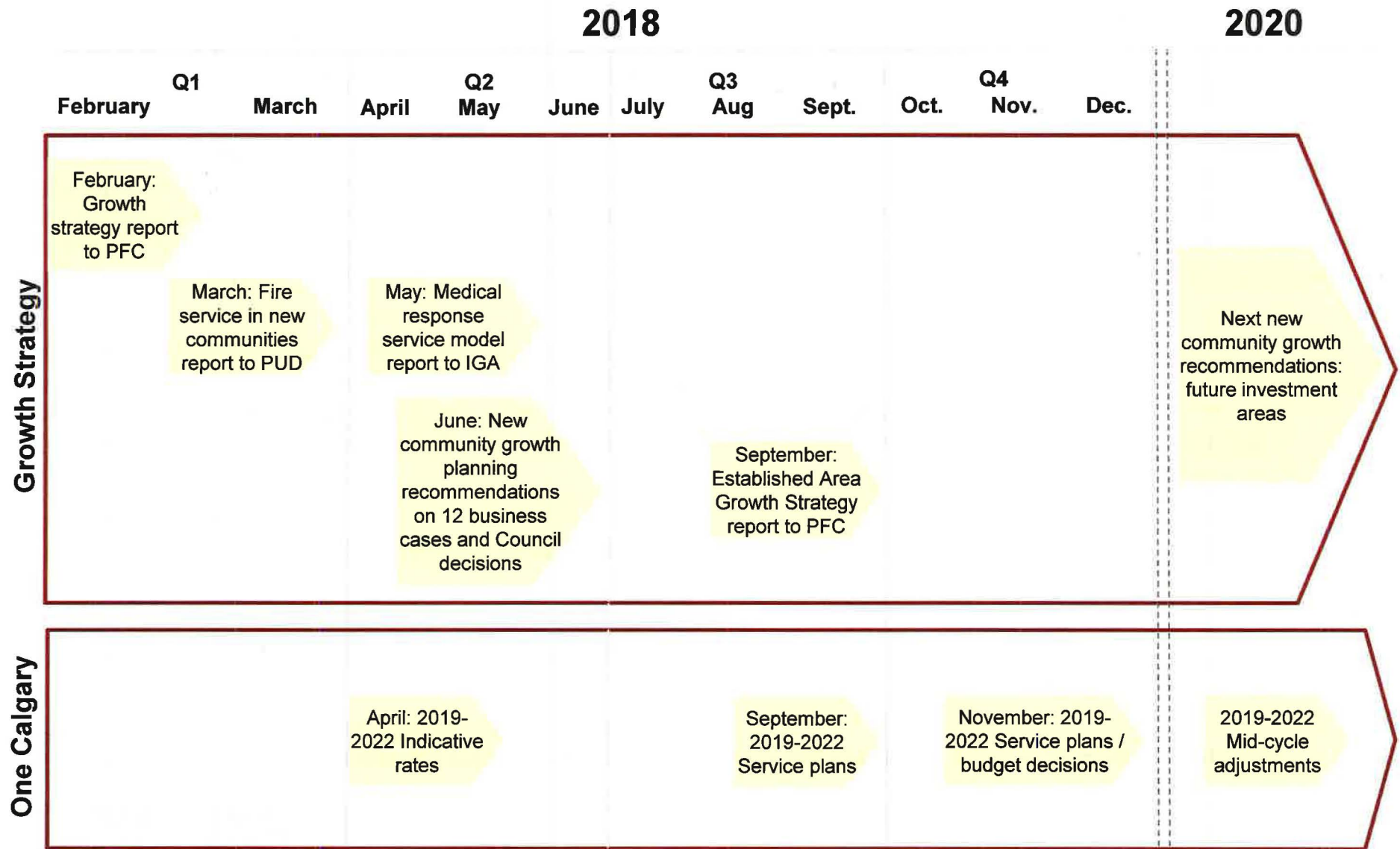
Previous Council Direction

On July 31, 2017, Administration was directed to respond to the amended motion arising that refer to Reports CPC 2017-270 and PFC2017-0445 as follows:

REFER, AS AMENDED, Moved by Councilor Demong, Seconded by Councilor Chu, that Council refer Reports CPC2017-270 and PFC2017-0445, **as amended**, as follows:

- 1) To the Administration to be brought back no later than the Public Hearing in 2018 **March**, and direct Administration to:
 - a) Have the Fire Chief, in conjunction with Calgary Building Services and independent consulting, complete a review of the Calgary Fire Department's Service Level Response Time Target policy, including an assessment of the impacts of residential sprinklers in growth areas and report back to Council through the SPC on Planning and Urban Development no later than 2018 **March**;
 - b) Have the Director of Calgary Building Services, in consultation with the Fire Chief, complete an analysis of best practices, policies and performance objectives for Fire response times in other Canadian Municipalities and provide a comparison in relation to National and Provincial Building Code standards to inform the Service Level Response Time Target policy review, and report back to Council through the SPC on Planning and Urban Development no later than 2018 **March**;
 - c) Incorporate the results of 1a and 1b, above, to inform the process for strategic growth analysis and decisions and revise recommendations on PFC2017-0445 and CPC2017-270, as necessary.
- 2) Direct Administration to undertake a review of the Calgary Fire Department medical response business model including relationship with Alberta Health Services, and return to Council through the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee no later than 2018 Q2

Next Steps: Budget Timing



- **Development and Building Industry**
 - Multiple meetings held with City Administration and consultants
 - BILD Calgary provided their response to the consultant recommendations, which will be included in the report
- **Water Services Business Unit**
 - Consultants met with Water Services to understand how residential fire sprinklers would affect water main sizes and fire flows
- **International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local 255**
 - Consultants engaged with IAFF Local 255 executive
 - Position is that sprinklers are encouraged but do not replace fire department response
- **Citizens**
 - Citizen perspectives were gathered from Citizen Satisfaction and the annual Citizen Perceptions and Expectations Surveys



Analysis & Research: Consultant Analysis of Service Levels and Response Time Targets and Impact of Residential Sprinklers

- The consulting firm of Kelton, Chertow & Boyd Inc. (KCB) were engaged to provide a report on these matters.
 - Their findings indicate that Calgary's response target policy is set at a level that is in line with other Canadian municipalities; including the seven minute target for first-in resources and the 11 minute target for effective response force.
 - Recommended all new homes in Calgary should be fitted with sprinklers but did not recommend extending growth beyond the current seven minute response time target based on sprinklering.
- Administration was unable to find an enforcement mechanism that would ensure sprinklers were implemented for communities built outside of the current 7 minute Service Level Response Time Target areas.
 - **Therefore Administration cannot recommend residential sprinklers as a fire mitigation policy.**
- Trends for fire service provision in new communities show that fire halls in new communities have historically been built when the community is about 50% complete



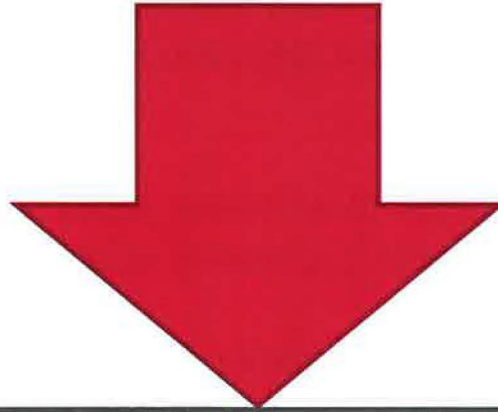
Analysis and Research: Municipal Comparisons of Building Codes and Fire Response

- All other Provinces in Canada recognize that fire department response may impact construction of new homes, as established through their building code
- None of the 11 municipalities and two provincial jurisdictions surveyed make growth decisions based on fire response times
- Ontario is the only jurisdiction that does not specifically use the 10 minute building code requirement
 - Ontario requires enhanced fire protection “Where there is no fire department or where a fire department is not organized, trained and equipped to meet the needs of the community...”
- Calgary’s historical goal of 7 minutes for first-in emergency response, as well as its “Integration of Emergency Services into the City of Calgary Land Use, Infrastructure and Mobility Planning Policy” create a unique situation with a strategic view of how growth and emergency response align to create safe, complete communities.

Options for Consideration

Option A:	Option B:	Option C:
Maintain current fire response targets in new community growth areas	Development area within maximum 10 minute fire response time in new community growth areas	Development area beyond maximum 10 minute response time with mitigation, in new community growth areas

Recommended Option



Option A: <i>Not Recommended</i>	Option B: <i>Recommended</i>	Option C: <i>Not Recommended</i>
Maintain current fire response targets in new community growth areas	Development area within maximum 10 minute fire response time in new community growth areas	Development area beyond maximum 10 minute response time with mitigation, in new community growth areas

Financial Risks

- Funding may be allocated at one point in time, but there's never a guarantee that it is secure for future growth
- Based on current Council policy and direction, there may be an obligation to invest in long-term fire service in developing areas in the future

Service Level Risks

- Presents a risk of creating inefficient service delivery and a disparity in service levels between established and developing communities.
- By using current fire resources to serve developing communities, citywide fire service may be negatively impacted.

Safety Risks

- Extended response times to fire incidents may create increased risk to citizens and property.
- There are risks that remain in developing areas beyond the seven minute response window associated with other incidents to which Fire responds.

Growth Risks

- By not accepting these recommendations, and maintaining current service levels, economic investment could be lost from the development industry and population growth may be lost to neighbouring municipalities

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATIONS:

Administration recommends that the Standing Policy Committee on Planning and Urban Development:

1. Direct this report to the 2018 March 19 Combined Meeting of Council; and
2. Recommend that Council approve, as an interim measure for new community growth areas, a maximum fire response time of 10 minutes at 90 per cent of the time.