



June 13, 2018

The City of Calgary  
PO Box 2100, Station M  
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

Attention: Members of Standing Policy Committee on Utilities and Corporate Services

Re: **UCS2018-0688: Climate Resilience Strategy and Action Plans**

As Chair of the strategic Climate Change Committee at BILD, I'd like to thank Administration for their work on the Climate Resilience Strategy, the time they took to work with us, and also to recognize BILD for pro-actively working with the City through this process.

With regards to the report noted above, we would like add our support to the BILD position to set up a governance and working group structure that includes external industry stakeholders, and for the Action Plans listed in Attachment 1, related to both Mitigation and Adaptation, to be put to that group to collectively determine best approaches to meeting the overall Programs and Themes identified in the strategy.

If this group is established, we believe that the topics of Water and Natural Systems must be part of the focus and mandate of that group. There are a number of compelling reasons for this focus:

1. We understand that a working group on Water and Natural Systems was originally envisioned by the Climate Team, but was never implemented for various reasons. The stakeholder engagement and buy-in required for movement on this topic is extensive – not only at a cross-departmental level at the City, but also across industry groups and into the Calgary region. This topic has significant impact for our industry across all sectors. Industry engagement was done for portions the Mitigation side of the strategy, but not for the Adaptation component.
2. The introduction of the theme “Natural Infrastructure” to the Mitigation Action Plan occurred after stakeholder engagement, and is repeated again as a theme in the Adaptation Action Plan. There is no clear definition of what Natural Infrastructure is, and the action plan items are similar, but not exactly the same. Having both Action Plans considered under one governance/working group would ensure prudent deployment of resources, alignment of efforts, and prevent inconsistencies in approach.
3. Our industry is currently seeing significant storm-water related challenges that are becoming a barrier to development, whether it is in the beltline or in a new community, whether residential, commercial or industrial. While this is actively being addressed with the City, no resolution has occurred to date, and there is no direction to ensure resolution occurs before new policies are added. A joint approach to resolve base issues should be taken, aligning current approach and policies before adding anything new.

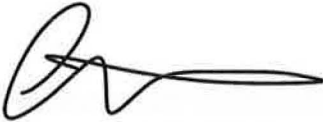
Our request to Committee and Council is to:

1. Support the BILD request for a joint, cross-departmental, internal/external governance and working group framework; and

2. Direct that action plan items related to the Natural Infrastructure Themes in both the Mitigation and Adaptation Plans be jointly reviewed and managed under that working group.

We wish to express our thanks to Administration for all their work on this strategy. Please note that we support their work, and appreciate the efforts undertaken to date to work collaboratively with industry as well as other external stakeholders.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'A' followed by a series of horizontal strokes.

C.C.