



June 7, 2018

City of Calgary, Standing Policy Committee on Transportation and Transit
The City of Calgary
PO Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

Re: TT2018-0628 Complete Streets Policy and Residential Street Design Policy Update

Dear Members of SPC on Transportation and Transit:

Regarding the above noted Report and Update, BILD Calgary Region (BILD) would like to acknowledge Administration, in particular Samad Abdul - Complete Streets Program Lead - as well as his team, for their efforts to engage BILD in preparing the above referenced Report and attachments directed to SPC for Transportation and Transit on June 7, 2018.

The following will outline BILD's perspective regarding the status of the above referenced policy and reasons for our request that Committee and Council modify the Administration recommendation to **report back to Council no later than Q4 2019** on the effectiveness and implementation of the policies....

The Complete Streets policy adopted and initiated in 2014, represents significant changes and impact to how communities are planned and built. The new communities' development cycle from planning through construction to completion is protracted and far reaching, and even now – 4 years after policy adoption - we are just beginning to see the early impacts to new development as a result of the implementation of the policies.

As the Report's Executive Summary states:

"The majority of new communities are still at early stages of the development; without full road network connectivity and local amenities in place. It is too soon to provide a full report on the effectiveness of the multi-modal design standards included in the Complete Streets Policy and 2014 Design Guidelines for Subdivision Servicing (2014 DGSS)."

We believe that implementing this policy is creating significant change to the way the City of Calgary is being shaped and will have considerable impacts and cost implications to home buyers, as well as future tax payers, and the City of Calgary itself through potentially increased operational, maintenance, and life cycle replacement costs.

We appreciate that the Report indicates there is some ongoing work on issues requiring resolution between The City of Calgary and various stakeholders, including BILD, and we understand that will continue as issues emerge. However, there is significantly more work to be done in the way of assessing the effectiveness of the policies, and the additional monitoring of further stages of development would be crucial to those efforts to measure results, quantify costs and evaluate the trade-offs of the policy.

For example, the environmental and economic impacts referenced in the Report... BILD would suggest more investigation should be done regarding the City's increased infrastructure liability and the environmental impact of the overall multi-modal infrastructure. The Report indicates there has been a decrease in the size of one component of a sample road cross-section but does not measure the complete cross-section which may have been expanded to include additional multi-modal infrastructure resulting in an increase to the size of the overall network.

We are not confident that these and other policy impacts have been fully anticipated or effectively assessed. As a result, the lengthy gap of time Administration is proposing between the current Report and the next reporting cycle in 2023, is problematic, limiting our opportunity to evaluate policy impacts and make adjustments to mitigate negative consequences.

Accordingly, again, we respectfully request Committee and Council to modify the recommendation to **report back to Council no later than Q4 2019** on the effectiveness and implementation of the policies.

Q4 2019 timing will allow monitoring of two further construction cycles providing additional data for a more comprehensive report, as well as an opportunity to assess alignment with the visions and policies of the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and the Calgary Transportation Plan (CTP). Should significant policy changes be recommended, these will coincide with the planned review of the MDP and the CTP, both of which are scheduled to undergo a review in 2020.

Respectfully,
BILD Calgary Region



Beverly Jarvis
Director of Policy, Projects & Government Relations

c.c. Michael Thompson, General Manager, Transportation
Samad Abdul, Complete Streets Program Lead, Transportation