

March 20, 2017

The City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100 Station M, #412
Calgary AB T2P 2M5

Attn: Mr. Rob Spackman, Director, Water Resources

Dear Mr. Spackman:

Re: Utilities & Environmental Protection Report to SPC on Utilities and Corporate Services – UCS2017-0266, Flood Mitigation Measures Assessment Report and 2016 Flood Resilience Update

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Calgary Downtown Association and The Calgary Stampede, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be part of the Community Advisory Group. The engagement was handled in a very professional manner and was inclusive. Congratulations to you and your team for a benchmark engagement process.

The Community Advisory Group was diverse, knowledgeable and passionate. It was comforting to see how much support there was from the group for protecting the downtown, deemed to be Calgary's economic engine, from future floods. Additionally, a lot of credit was given to the Calgary Stampede for the investment in flood mitigation and preparedness, already completed, to protect a major social and economic contributor the city.

The five recommendations in the report are supported. However, several of the risks outlined in the report should not be underestimated. The updated Provincial Flood Hazard Area Mapping could have a significant impact on future development in the city. Both the new Bow River Reservoir and the Springbank Off-stream Reservoir have high levels of uncertainty of being built, and would render the other mitigation recommendations inadequate.

The recommendation for low-height barriers on the Bow River is well received. Integrating the flood-mitigating functionality of barriers with public realm amenities and landscaping, similar to those found along the pathway along Memorial Drive, or proposed for West Eau Claire, demonstrate that mitigation infrastructure can positively contribute to the community and cause minimal disruption.

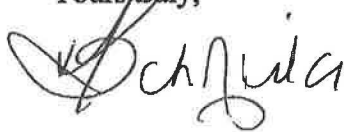


Future consideration of land use policies and best practices potentially restricting sensitive uses like daycares, assisted living facilities and protective and emergency services may change the aspirations of planning documents to create complete communities with increased residential density in the inner city, especially in the downtown. These changes would need to be carefully investigated with all stakeholders.

It will be important to expedite implementation of the flood mitigation measures recommended, while respecting those impacted, ensuring Calgary's flood resiliency negates another experience similar to 2013.

Should you require anything further, please call me directly at (403) 215-1565.

Yours truly,



M. A. (Maggie) Schofield
Executive Director, Calgary Downtown Association and Director, Calgary Stampede Board

cc: Peter Demong, Chairman, Utilities and Corporate Services SPC
Brad Krizan, Calgary Downtown Association Chairman of the Board
Bill Gray, Calgary Stampede, President and Chairman of the Board

