

**Community Services Report to
SPC on Community and Protective Services
2019 February 13**

**ISC: UNRESTRICTED
CPS2019-0152**

**Cannabis Impact and Waterpipe Smoking Restrictions
Deferral Report**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report requests deferrals for two motions arising, stemming from the 2018 April 5 Combined Meeting of Council. The first motion arising requested a report back considering further prohibitions on waterpipe smoking and smoking in certain venues. A deferral to 2019 Q4 for the waterpipe and smoking restrictions report will allow sufficient time to complete engagement and research to fully inform Administration's recommendations. The second motion arising directed Administration to report back to Council with a report on the impact of cannabis bylaws on those who are experiencing vulnerability. A deferral to 2019 Q4 will allow for a full year of data to be included in the report on the impact of cannabis legalization on people experiencing vulnerability. Bringing forward this report in 2019 Q4 will also align with a motion arising to report back on the impact of cannabis legalization on festivals and events.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

That the SPC on Community and Protective Services recommend that Council:

- 1) Defer the report on the impact of cannabis legalization on vulnerable populations to Council through the SPC on Community and Protective Services Committee no later than 2019 Q4; and
- 2) Defer the report on smoking and waterpipe restrictions to Council through the SPC on Community and Protective Services Committee no later than 2019 Q4.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

On 2018 April 5, Council adopted a motion arising, moved by Councillor Carra, seconded by Councillor Colley-Urquhart, that Council direct Administration to engage citizens and key stakeholders (including Alberta Health Services) to further strengthen the Smoking and Vaping Bylaw 23M2018, with consideration given to prohibiting:

- Waterpipe smoking in workplaces, public premises and specified outdoor places;
- Smoking in multi-unit public housing administered by the City of Calgary; and
- Smoking and vaping in hotel and motel rooms, in outdoor public parks and at outdoor public events.

And to report back to Council, through the SPC on Community and Protective Services with recommendations and bylaw amendments no later than 2019 Q2.

On 2018 April 5, Council adopted a motion arising, moved by Councillor Colley-Urquhart, seconded by Councillor Carra, that Council direct Administration to consult with key stakeholders and report back to Council, through the SPC on Community and Protective Services, no later than 2019 June on the implications and impacts of said bylaws with specific regard to minimizing unintended consequences and/or inequity amongst vulnerable populations.

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BACKGROUND

In 2016, anticipating the impact of the federal legalization of cannabis on The City of Calgary, Administration established a working team of subject matter experts from across the Corporation to identify issues of concern and determine the required municipal response to this federal decision. This work, coupled with extensive research and engagement with Calgarians, formed the basis for a new Cannabis Consumption Bylaw 24M2018 and a number of Bylaw amendments that were approved by Council on 2018 April 5.

The federal government was expected to legalize non-medical cannabis by 2018 July. This expected legalization date was still in place when Council amended bylaws on 2018 April 5. On 2018 June 20, the federal government announced that the date for legalization would be delayed until 2018 October 17.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

With cannabis legalization delayed until 2018 October 17, Administration's resources, including staff and budget, were directed towards this issue until late in 2018 Q4. As a result, there were limited resources with which to address the motion arising regarding the further restrictions on waterpipes and smoking. A budget to address the engagement and research associated with this report was not available until 2019. A deferral of the restriction on waterpipe and smoking motion arising to 2019 Q4 would provide sufficient time to conduct comprehensive engagement and research, and would further inform Administration's recommendations in the report.

The delay in cannabis legalization also resulted in a limited timeframe from which to draw information related to the impact of cannabis bylaws on people experiencing vulnerability. Deferring a report until 2019 Q4 would allow for a more fulsome accounting of the impact of the bylaws over the course of a full year. A deferral would also allow for alignment with the motion arising from Council on 2018 June 25 directing Administration to report back on the impact of cannabis legalization on festivals and events by 2019 Q4.

Strategic Alignment

Deferring the report on the impact of cannabis bylaws on vulnerable populations to come back at the same time as the report on the impact on festivals and events aligns with Council Directive W2: *...The City must work on improving the value of municipal services delivered by simplifying and streamlining processes and procedures, cutting red tape, eliminating service silos, and discontinuing those services that The City should not be providing.*

Deferring the report on the restriction on waterpipes and smoking which will allow for more complete research and engagement aligns with Council Directive W1: *... We need to learn from Calgarians through meaningful engagement to fully understand and respond to their service requirements and needs.*

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**Social, Environmental, Economic (External)
Financial Capacity**

Current and Future Operating Budget:

There are no impacts regarding this request to defer.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

There are no impacts regarding this request to defer.

Risk Assessment

There are no impacts regarding this request to defer.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

This report requests the deferral of these reports primarily due to the federal government's unanticipated delay in cannabis legalization, which resulted in a compressed timeframe for data gathering as well as limited resources with which to respond.

ATTACHMENT(S)

None