

ONGOING REPORTING PLAN FOR THE CALGARY EATS! FOOD SYSTEM ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is a follow-up to the first progress report presented to Council 2014 December 15 on the Calgary EATS! Food System Assessment and Action Plan. This report establishes the frequency of reporting, provides an indication of the reporting framework approach, and confirms which committee this information will be brought to in the future.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the SPC on Community and Protective Services recommends that Council receive this report for information, and direct Administration to:

1. Return to Council through SPC on Community & Protective Services no later than December 2017 and every four years thereafter in advance of the business planning cycle with a progress report that reflects both The City of Calgary and community's actions with respect to the Calgary EATS! Food System and Action Plan; and
2. Align the Calgary EATS! Progress Report with City of Calgary Results Based Accountability practices, as they develop before 2017.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

On 2012 June 06 Council received for information the summary of the "Calgary Eats! Food System Assessment and Action Plan for Calgary". Council directed Administration to return with a progress/status report to Council through the SPC on Community and Protective Services, no later than 2013 December (CPS2012-0087).

On 2013 December 06 the SPC on Community and Protective Services approved Administration's request to defer the progress/status report on the "Calgary EATS! Food System Assessment and Action Plan" to no later than December 2014 (CPS2013-0695).

On 2014 December 15 Council received for information the first progress/status report. Council then directed administration to "Establish a regular monitoring and reporting cycle on progress towards the Calgary EATS! Action Plan and report back in advance of each City business planning cycle to the Standing Policy Committee on Community and Protective Services, no later than 2015 July" (CPS2014-0732).

BACKGROUND

At the 2014 December 10 meeting of the SPC on Community and Protective services, it was discussed that Administration would need to investigate how progress on the Calgary Eats! Food Assessment and Action Plan would be reported, the frequency of reporting, and to which SPC it should be reported. This was a result of acknowledging that The Office of Sustainability would be moving to another business unit in 2015 and it was too early to specify which SPC should receive the report on an ongoing basis. As well, it was noted by Administration that Council envisions and requests that future progress reports align with developing City of Calgary results-based reporting.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

Monitoring and Reporting Framework:

The reporting structure will include the following distinct components:

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1. A report of cross-sector progress towards the areas of intervention and principles identified in the original Calgary Eats! Plan.
2. In alignment with Results Based Accountability, a progress report on The City of Calgary's contribution to a healthy and sustainable food system, as identified in the Calgary EATS! Plan.

Administration will bring the progress report to the SPC on Community & Protective Services. The scope of this committee aligns best with the objectives of Calgary EATS! Food System Assessment and Action Plan.

Reporting Cycle

The reporting cycle will precede The City's Business Planning and Budget Cycle every four years, starting no later than 2017 December.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

As part of The City's ongoing work the Calgary EATS! Stewardship Group, Administration has engaged and received support from the co-chairs on this reporting approach.

Strategic Alignment

Calgary EATS! reporting aligns with the Council endorsed "City of Calgary actions identified within the plan [that] focus on removing barriers, providing support and aligning on-going work to the vision and principles of the food system assessment." (Calgary EATS! Food System Assessment and Action Plan, page 218).

Further, "Calgarians have a vision for a sustainable food system and they articulated this through the imagineCALAGARY targets for food. Their interest and passion for our food system is growing and the different levels of government and business are responding to this demand for knowledge and change. [The] food system assessment has outlined where we stand as a city in relation to this citizen demand. We have not yet reached our targets, and, for some, we need to be more focussed on collecting the right data and communicating enough of the right information to see how we are doing." (Calgary EATS! Food System Assessment and Action Plan, page 225). The Report is a way for Administration to communicate progress to Council.

Social, Environmental, Economic (External) section

Progress reports help to realize the Calgary EATS! vision to create a sustainable and resilient food system for the Calgary region and therefore holistically addresses the social, environmental and economic aspects of the food system.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

The progress report research and production costs can be absorbed into the current operating budget.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

The progress report will not incur a capital cost.

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Risk Assessment:

The risk of progress reporting not occurring on a regular basis is the reduced ability for Council and Administration to understand the successes of and challenges encountered by Calgary EATS! work. Council would not have the information necessary to provide direction and make decisions on Calgary EATS! work in the context of broader Corporate and community sustainability.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

The recommendations from Administration reflect Council instructions regarding Calgary EATS! Reporting.

ATTACHMENT(S)

None