

Transportation Report to
SPC on Transportation and Transit
2019 June 26

ISC: UNRESTRICTED
TT2019-0719

The Calgary Goods Movement and Logistics Advisory Group

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Calgary Goods Movement Strategy (GMS) was approved by City Council on December 17, 2018 (TT2018-1289). The strategy was the first comprehensive study on goods movement in Calgary. Through the GMS, Administration has established collaborative partnerships with industry stakeholders. One of the recommendations of the GMS, was to establish an advisory group or task force to guide the implementation of the action items that were recommended in the Strategy. In receiving this report, Council is provided with information on how this recommendation (# 4 from TT2018-1289) will be moved forward by Administration.

Administration has been working with industry and stakeholders to establish an advisory group. This advisory group will provide a forum to continue conversations and collaboration with stakeholders who participated in the GMS project, and other members of the goods movement and logistics industry. It will be comprised of representatives from Administration, members of Council, the goods movement industry, Calgary Economic Development (CED), regional partners, academic institutions and others. The committee is tentatively named, "Calgary Goods Movement and Logistics Advisory Group (The Advisory Group)".

In Q1 2019, City Clerks have circulated Members of Council as to their interest in serving on the Advisory Group. Councillor Chahal, Councillor Davison and Councillor Farkas have expressed interest. Councillor Gondek has also expressed interest and offered to be an alternate, if needed.

The Advisory Group will advise on implementing the Goods Movement Strategy and help improve Calgary's potential as an inland market, focussing on identifying opportunities to benefit the transportation and logistics industries in Calgary. The group will act in an advisory capacity to The City. The advisory group should be included as a stakeholder for engagement on projects and research related to goods movement. The Advisory Group will report as necessary to City Council through the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation & Transit. The Advisory Group will be created in Q3 2019 and maintained by Administration with existing resources.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

That the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation & Transit Committee recommend that this Report be received for information.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

At the 2018 December 17 Regular Meeting of Council, Council approved The Calgary Goods Movement Strategy as presented in report TT2018-1289. The recommendation #4 from this report was:

"Direct Administration to work with industry and stakeholders to establish a goods movement committee to provide input into the implementation and monitoring of Goods Movement Strategy. Request that the City Clerks circulate Members of Council as to their interest in serving on this committee, to return to Council with the results of the poll and a draft Terms of Reference no later than Q1 2019."

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BACKGROUND

The Calgary Goods Movement Strategy (GMS) was the first comprehensive study on goods movement in Calgary. The GSM highlights the economic importance of goods movement, describes issues and challenges experienced by the industry and provides tools to enhance goods movement for Calgarians. The GSM recommends 26 actions that complement each other and inform land use planning, development approval, economic development, investment decisions and transportation infrastructure planning and operations.

A common outcome of many goods movement strategies is the development of a freight-focused advisory group or forum. These groups are often called freight councils. They help implement the strategy, are effective tools used in many cities to speak for the freight industry with one voice, to promote dialogue between private- and public-sector stakeholders, and to advance or advocate for projects benefiting goods movement. The group can also identify new initiatives, foster collaboration and help set priorities.

A goods movement advisory body is recommended as the first step in implementing the GSM. Other jurisdictions have established similar advisory bodies to implement their goods movement strategies, such as the Goods Movement Task Force in Peel Region, Ontario and TransLink's Urban Freight Council in Vancouver.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

Throughout the development of GSM, Administration has worked closely with Calgary Economic Development's Transportation & Logistics Advisory Committee. This committee was put on hold since Fall of 2018 with the intent to replace it with the new Goods Movement and Logistics Advisory Group.

The Advisory Group will be administered and managed by the Transportation Department. The City, as the largest and central municipality in the region, should be instrumental in enabling the group's activities. The Advisory Group will be made up of Administration, Calgary Economic Development (CED), members of Council, the goods movement industry, regional partners, academic institutions and others.

The Advisory Group will continue its collaboration process to connect stakeholders and use meetings to discuss specific areas of focus. It could also be charged with identifying new needs, updating the GSM on a timely basis and reviewing priorities.

The mandate of the Advisory Group will be as follows:

- To help implement the Calgary Goods Movement Strategy
- To provide a forum to bring together key public and private sector stakeholders, to guide the continuous innovation and improvement to the future of the goods movement
- To facilitate the exchange of information and to develop common messages on issues affecting goods movement;
- To identify investment attraction opportunities to Calgary
- To develop plans to improve Calgary's potential as an inland market
- Engage industry leaders to monitor emerging opportunities and challenges within transportation and logistics, across various sectors of the Calgary economy.

The Calgary Goods Movement and Logistics Advisory Group

The Advisory Group will have the following responsibilities:

- Monitor, review and provide input and feedback to municipal, regional, provincial and federal initiatives related to goods movement;
- Develop an action plan with achievable goals and the required partnerships, for the implementation of short-term, intermediate and long-term recommendations from the Calgary Goods Movement Strategy
- Inform CED and City Council of economic business sectors that impact logistics needs – as well as specific business opportunities and issues impacting transportation and logistics in general.
- Promote CED and City Council's knowledge and expertise within the logistics sector businesses.
- Promote Calgary region as an Inland Market/Port and enable Calgary to reach its potential as Western Canada's logistics hub.

Although its focus necessarily will be Calgary-specific issues, the Advisory Group can ensure that the regional perspective is included in its membership and mandate. It could serve as the portal for examining specific topics of importance to the goods movement industry as well as for disseminating information to the broader goods movement community.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

Several stakeholders were engaged in the process of developing the GMS. It has attracted significant interest and support from the public and private sector, as well as the distribution and logistics communities. Stakeholders want to continue to collaborate with The City to implement the GMS and promote Calgary's attractiveness as a place to grow and invest. The Advisory Group will provide a platform for continued collaboration.

The recommendation for a goods movement forum was put forward as part of the GMS following an extensive research on best practices and a jurisdictional scan. In Q1 2019, City Clerks have circulated Members of Council as to their interest in serving on the Advisory Group. Councillor Chahal, Councillor Davison and Councillor Farkas have expressed interest. Councillor Gondek has also expressed interest and offered to be an alternate, if needed.

Strategic Alignment

The advisory group, as a recommendation of the GMS, aligns with multiple Council approved policies and specifically supports:

- The Calgary Transportation Plan (CTP) by reviewing, enhancing and augmenting the goods movement policies within it. The GMS provides action items to help achieve the goods movement related goals listed in the CTP.
- The Municipal Development Plan by complementing and supporting urban growth policies. The GMS complements The City's growth management and industrial land strategies.
- 2020 Sustainability Directions, "A Prosperous Economy, Smart Growth". The recommendations from the GMS supports the attraction and retention of businesses that need to move goods to markets in Calgary, regionally, nationally and internationally.

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Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

This report and the recommendations included in this report were reviewed for alignment with The City of Calgary's Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Policy Framework. The Advisory Group shares the same vision as the GMS for a multi-modal system that is safe, economical, reliable, efficient and environmentally sustainable. Below are specific implications:

Social

Implementation of the GMS will support connecting goods and services, locally, regionally, and globally through a safe, efficient, reliable and connective goods movement network. The Advisory Group will help bring public and private-sector members of the transportation industry together with City Administration.

Environmental

The Advisory Group will help in the Implementation of the GMS which is intended to help minimize fuel consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutant emissions from goods movement activity.

Economic

The GMS was developed in close collaboration with Calgary Economic Development and other industry associations. Implementation of the GMS supports the economic development of Calgary by helping ensure the efficiency of goods movement, in turn making Calgary a more competitive location for businesses to locate. The Advisory Group will help improve the economy of Calgary by bringing together public and private sector stakeholders, to guide the continuous innovation and improvement in the transportation and logistics industry.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

The Advisory Group will be administered by City staff with existing resources. No operating budget implications are expected.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

No capital budget implications are expected.

Risk Assessment

The GMS has attracted significant interest and broad support from the private sector, distributors and the logistics community. They are eager to collaborate with The City to promote Calgary's attractiveness as a place to invest and grow. If a platform is not provided for continued conversation and involvement from the stakeholders, there is the potential of losing stakeholder trust.