



Your Community, Your Association, Your Voice

The Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs

August 26, 2021

Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister McIver:

RE: City of Calgary Land Use Redesignation Decision Made in Error

Against our advice and the advice of other community associations and area residents, Calgary City Council approved LOC2021-0043, a Council-initiated application to rezone land in Richmond Green Regional Park for high density residential and commercial use. The decision and the process leading up to this were patently unreasonable and incorrect. (The Courts have ruled against the City in 2019 (Brodylo) when the passing of a bylaw was deemed patently unreasonable in the circumstances.)

We are asking you to suspend Council's decision, investigate the matters we have identified, and, if finding our concerns valid, take the necessary steps to have the decision overturned.

We have opposed this land use redesignation from the outset based on feedback from our residents. We conducted a short survey over 3 days once we learned about the potential sale of the regional park space and received responses from 672 individuals. Of these, 90% opposed the sale of the park land.

As this is a land use re-designation, there are limited options in terms of an appeal process. An appeal through the Alberta Courts would need to focus on procedural elements, but it is financially prohibitive, as a volunteer-led community association, to pursue this matter through the Courts. Grounds for this challenge are related to the Municipal Development Plan which is a requirement of the Municipal Government Act, hence the reason we are approaching you.

Enclosed are the details as to why we find Council's decision to be incorrect, unreasonable, and, frankly, misguided. In summary, the process and decision-making did not comply with the *Municipal Development Plan*, Council's *Code of Conduct*, and, in one instance, *Code of Conduct* policies for employees. The decision also failed to fulfill obligations under the *Municipal Government Act*.

As a former member of City Council, you will understand the importance of the issues we have raised. You will also appreciate the need for municipalities to demonstrate sound, professional management that not only maintains the integrity of Alberta's planning system but is a vital element in attracting the talent and investment Alberta needs.

As you and your staff review our concerns, feel free to get in touch as questions arise or additional information is needed.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Leanne Ellis

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