**Explore businesses in Calgary with the Business Map**

Wondering what businesses are open around your neighborhood? You can use the Business Map to locate active businesses and view their license information near your current or other specified locations. You can also search for businesses by license type. Explore the Business Map now at <https://maps.calgary.ca/businessmap/>.To view more City of Calgary maps, please visit the Map Gallery at <https://mapgallery.calgary.ca/>.

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| **Calgarians invited to help reimagine public recreation** |

How do you stay active, healthy and social? The City wants to get a better picture of how you spend your free time.

GamePLAN is a public engagement and research initiative to support the development of a long-term vision and strategy for public recreation in Calgary. Public recreation is a network of recreation service providers who share a mandate to provide quality, accessible, affordable and inclusive recreation opportunities for Calgarians.

GamePLAN will result in a long-term strategic vision that will shape The City’s approach to delivering inclusive, equitable and sustainable recreation services over the next 10 to 30 years.

GamePLAN will guide future business planning and investment, shape policy and The City’s approach to service, and inform strategies for advancing the goals of sustainability, inclusion, accessibility and equity.

Help us reimagine public recreation in Calgary. Tell us what’s important to you by Jan. 31, 2024, at [calgary.ca/GamePLAN](https://calgary.ca/gameplan).

**Calgary City Building**

The City of Calgary is updating plans that will shape the Calgary of the future and make sure our city keeps on being a great place to live. As our city’s population approaches two million, we must prepare to support this growth. The City Building program will align and strengthen our plans and tools to create a place where every Calgarian can thrive.

The **Calgary Plan** will merge the *Municipal Development Plan* with the *Calgary Transportation Plan* to guide the way we move and use land across the city.

The new **Zoning Bylaw** (currently the *Land Use Bylaw*) will simplify the rules that govern the use of land and the form of buildings in the city.

The new **Street Manual** (currently the *Complete Streets Policy & Guide*) will provide updated direction for the design of Calgary’s streets to support safe travel options for all Calgarians.

All three of these documents will be created based on public feedback, existing policies, Council priorities, partnering with the Indigenous community, and extensive consultation with subject matter experts and interested parties. This effort will impact every Calgarian for the next 30 years.

The second phase of engagement will focus on the initial proposed direction of the Calgary Plan, Zoning Bylaw, and Street Manual. We invite all Calgarians to share their input, either in person or online, from Jan. 29 to March 3. Learn more and participate at [calgary.ca/citybuilding](https://engage.calgary.ca/citybuilding)

**Help us shape Calgary’s future floodplain policies and regulations**

Calgary’s river valleys are essential to our city—they’re at the core of our city’s identity and its appeal as a place to live, work and play.

As Calgary is vulnerable to flooding, making careful decisions about how we plan, develop and build in the floodplain is fundamental to protecting and enhancing the value of our river valleys while strengthening our overall resilience to the impacts of flooding.

With the province’s recent release of draft updated Flood Hazard Area maps reflecting the latest understanding of flood risk across Alberta and a new approach to flood hazard area zones, it’s now up to municipalities to decide how to develop and regulate in these areas.

The City is planning for the future of our river valleys, including our flood hazard areas, through the Calgary River Valleys Project, which will shape how we plan, develop and build in our river valleys

Your input on how we make decisions on the use, conservation and development of our river valleys and communities is important. This month, we’re talking to Calgarians about the future of our floodplain policies and regulations. Visit[**calgary.ca/RiverValleys**](http://www.calgary.ca/rivervalleys) to join in the conversation.

**Supporting businesses through construction – Green Line Business Support Program**

The Green Line Business Support Program is taking proactive steps to support local businesses impacted by construction. It's not uncommon for significant infrastructure projects to have impacts on businesses in the surrounding area, and it's reassuring to know that the Green Line team is committed to helping business owners navigate these challenges.

Over the course of 2023, our Business Support team connected with businesses along the alignment over 1,573 times to help them through current and future construction. This level of engagement and support is essential for ensuring that businesses can continue to operate and thrive during construction.

The Green Line team also works closely with project engineers and construction contractors to be responsive and provide solutions when needed. By taking a collaborative approach, the team can address issues quickly and effectively, minimizing the impact on businesses and the surrounding community.

The Green Line Business Support Program is committed to helping local businesses navigate construction impacts and ensuring that the project is completed successfully while minimizing disruption.

If you’re a business located along the future Green Line, register with us at [calgary.ca/GreenLineBusinessRegistration](http://www.calgary.ca/GreenLineBusinessRegistration). This allows us to communicate with you about construction impacts, and helps us plan ways to reduce those impacts.

**Stay safe, stay off storm ponds**With more people heading outside for winter activities, The City of Calgary wants to remind kids and their families to be safe while enjoying outdoor skating.

City of Calgary or community-designated outdoor skating rinks offer fun, free skating for all skill levels. Rinks maintained by The City are checked daily for ice thickness and quality, and surfaces are flooded as needed to make sure they’re safe for skating.

While your community storm pond may look inviting, recreational activities are not allowed on them. These ponds are part of your community’s stormwater infrastructure and are there to reduce community flooding and clean stormwater before it returns to our rivers. Ice on these ponds is less predictable than ice on regular ponds and can be unstable even when it looks solid.

**Here’s why**

Storm ponds contain sediment and contaminants (e.g. bacteria, fertilizers, pesticides, vehicle fluids, metal, road salt) that are collected as water travels through the community on their way to the storm pond, and can weaken the ice.

Water levels are also constantly changing as water moves between inlet and outlet pipes creating unpredictable ice conditions.

Although the ice may appear thick in some areas, other areas may have little to no ice and often snow can cover visible hazards.

Instead, find a safe City or community outdoor skating rink near you at [calgary.ca/rinks](http://www.calgary.ca/rinks)

**Watch our previously recorded webinars**

Looking to renovate your basement or open a business in Calgary? Watch our growing library of recorded webinars on [calgary.ca/webinar](https://www.calgary.ca/property-owners/maintenance-webinars.html?redirect=/webinar). Webinars are hosted through Microsoft Teams. Have you attended one of our webinars? Let us know how we did by completing our survey. This survey will take less than five minute to complete. Your feedback will help shape future webinars and all answers will be anonymous!

**Council unanimously votes to extend Secondary Suites Amnesty Program until Dec. 2026**

The City is extending the Secondary Suites Amnesty Program until Dec. 31, 2026. Under the Amnesty Program, charges for development permit and registration fees are waived. This enables owners to continue building safe and legal secondary suites at a reduced cost. For more information about building a secondary suite, please visit [calgary.ca/suites](https://www.calgary.ca/development/home-building/secondary-suites.html?redirect=/suites).

**Calgary needs more homes.  Citywide rezoning will help.**

The citywide rezoning proposed in Calgary’s Housing Strategy supports more housing choices and improves affordability.

Learn more about rezoning including how to provide your input online and at the public hearing on April 22, 2024 at [calgary.ca/rezoningforhousing](http://www.calgary.ca/rezoningforhousing).