

Calgary



Next 20: Review of the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and Calgary Transportation Plan (CTP)

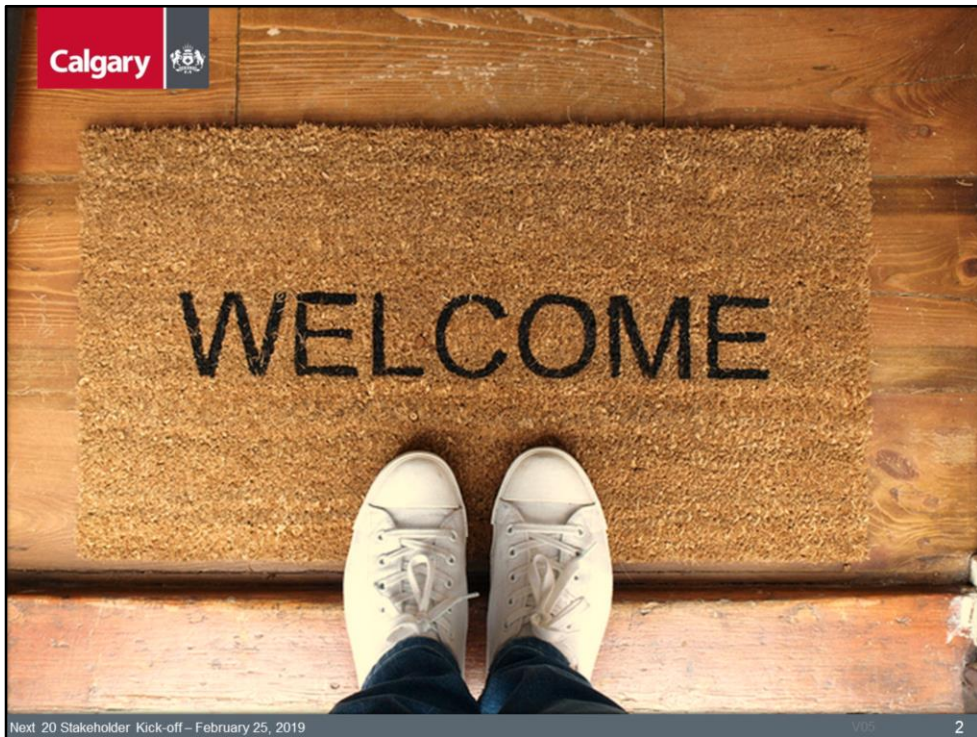
Stakeholder Kick-off Meeting – February 25th, 2019



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Welcome to The City of Calgary. In thinking about Calgary, it is important to realize that Calgary's story does not start in 1875. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The city of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

Today's Agenda

1. What is Next20? (30 mins)
 - Great cities don't happen by accident
 - Why you're here
 - What is in and out of scope, project approach
 - Planned activities and timeline
 - Engagement approach
2. Where are we now? (30 mins)
 - Review of our progress since 2009
3. Break (15 mins)
4. Focus group discussions (90 mins)
5. Next Steps (15 mins)

For today's agenda, we will start with an overview of our project. This will be followed by a presentation on our most recent monitoring report. We will take a short break, and then we will begin our first focus group activity and close with next steps.

Calgary 

Our Natural Legacy

Geography, environment and natural systems shape a community

A community built at the confluence of two rivers



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Throughout our history, we have been building a great city together. The geography has created a unique environment, shaped around the confluence of our two rivers, and the foothills and plains that surround us and make Calgary a special place.



Calgary 

Indigenous Settlement and Culture

Calgary's Indigenous Heritage

- Niitsitapi (The Blackfoot People)
- Stoney Nakota
- Tsuut'ina Nation
- Métis

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The confluence of the two rivers has been home and gathering place for indigenous people long before Calgary. The Blackfoot word Moh'kinsstis describes the landscape of what we now know as Calgary. Indigenous culture has, and will continue, to play an important role in shaping our city.

Key Events Contributing to Our Legacy



Fort
Calgary



Railroads



Calgary
Stampede



Leduc No 1



Winter
Olympics



Floods
of 2013

Our history has been shaped by key events. The railroad shaped both our development and early street network. Many of these events have left both physical and cultural legacies that continue to contribute to the culture of Calgary.

Entrepreneurship and Philanthropy Contributing to Our Legacy



Central
Memorial
Library



Bowness
Park



Palliser
hotel



Calgary
Tower



Bow
Building



Garrison
Woods

Private entrepreneurship and philanthropy have played a major role in developing Calgary. Many of our iconic buildings, our neighbourhoods and even some of our beloved amenities were made possible through private investment. This will continue to be a backbone of our city and government must work in tandem with private interests for our city to move forward and be better.

Community Priorities and Initiatives Contributing to Our Legacy



Glenmore
Reservoir



University
of Calgary



River path
system



Airport
terminal



LRT
System



New Central
Library

In addition to private investment, our public and community priorities and initiatives provide the connections and complete the gaps in our city in order to provide a rich quality of life for Calgarians. Many of these systems and amenities were a result of long-term planning. This created the conditions, the funding, and the physical space needed for these amenities to result. For instance, most of the land the river pathway system downtown occupies was once privately owned. It was through a long-term plan that the pathway system we enjoy today was able to exist.

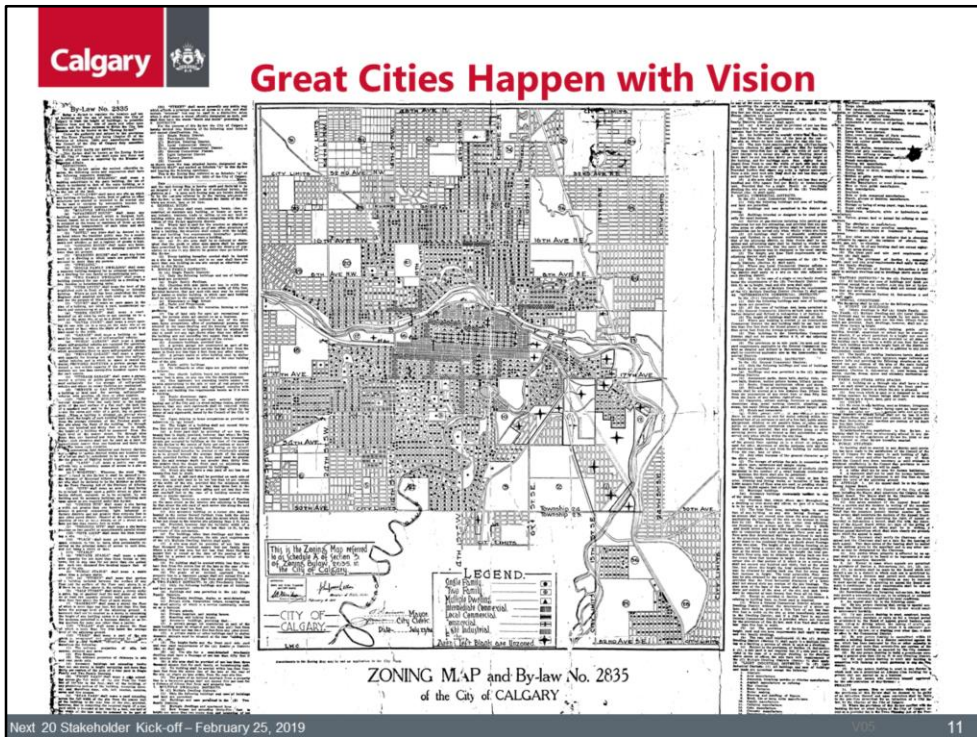
A Legacy of Facing Change

- 1 Change is not new to Calgary.
- 2 We will continue to grow and change.
- 3 In the past and going forward we work together.
- 4 Diversity of knowledge and experience makes our city stronger and better.
- 5 Planning for new growth and change is a powerful tool for shaping the city we want to become.

Change is not new to Calgary. “Our city will continue to grow and change. People will come and people will go, but more will stay to make a life here. The diversity of knowledge and experience makes our city stronger and better. We know this because change is not new to us. Embracing diversity has made Calgary one of the most livable cities in the world, and will continue to be a powerful tool for shaping the city we want to become.”

Great cities don't happen by accident.

The city we experience today—the places we live and work, parks and recreational facilities we enjoy, amenities in our neighbourhoods, public transit, roads, bridges, sidewalks and pathways—is a result of decades of planning for tomorrow. Our long-range plans help organize the city to best achieve our desired outcomes in a world of limited resources.



Calgary's first land use bylaw was approved in 1934. This was the beginning of taking a more comprehensive approach to city planning. Over time, the idea of a Municipal Development Plan would take shape, with Calgary's first general plan approved in 1970.

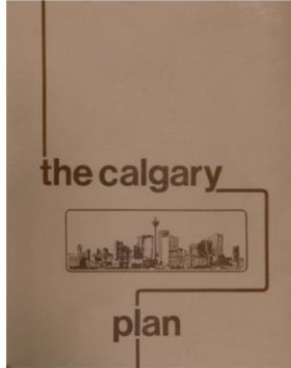
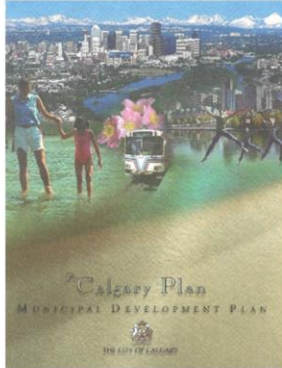
Great Cities Happen with Perseverance

North Rapid Transit Line
From CALTS Calgary Transportation Study,
January, 1968



However our focus has always included multiple travel options. Calgary Transit was established in 1909 starting with the streetcar system. Rapid transit has been a consideration as far back as the 1960s. Our pathway system began to emerge in the 1970s to provide access throughout the city and connect to areas of natural beauty. Our most recent plans recognize the need to enable walking and cycling as desirable options for all types of travel.

Why Plans are Important



As we have just seen, many aspects of city-shaping occur over longer periods of time. Long-term plans help organize our city to maximize multiple outcomes. Deciding what infrastructure is needed or what communities we should build shape our longer term social, economic and environmental outcomes.

Cities are Constantly Evolving

1948



2012



The city is shaped by a number of local and global factors. Rapid growth, as well as the boom-bust nature of the economy has significantly shaped our city over time. Change affects different areas of the city in different ways. Newer areas undergo construction and then stabilize. Older areas undergo renewal and reinvestment. The nature of our challenges evolve and change over time, as well as the tools and opportunities to address them.

Cities are Constantly Evolving

1948



Today



How we travel has also changed, as technologies evolve and our system changes to best suit our needs. Early planning focussed on prioritizing auto mobility. Over time, we realized the need to ensure we were providing multiple, high-quality travel options for citizens. This is to ensure our city can be more sustainable and resilient as we go forward.

What is our current foundation and guiding policy?

MDP/CTP and Plan It Calgary Process



100-year vision
(2006)



Planning and Engagement
(2006 – 2009)



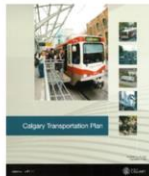
Municipal Development Plan
Calgary Transportation Plan
(2009)

The current plans are our Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and Calgary Transportation Plan (CTP). Back in 2006, ImagineCalgary was a community led process that established a broad, long term vision for Calgary. Over 18 000 Calgarians contributed to the development of it. The work of Plan It Calgary was to develop a new MDP and CTP, looking out 60 years, that had an integrated approach to delivering on the built form and transportation aspects of this vision. This resulted in our current MDP and CTP which were approved in 2009.

What are the MDP and CTP?

60-Year Vision

30-Year Policy Framework

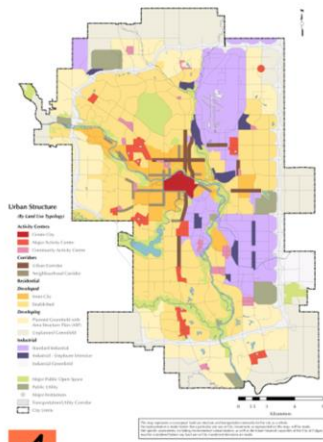


- Describe the built form and transportation network needed to achieve the vision of Calgarians
- Look at a 60-year time horizon with an anticipated 1.3 million more people in Calgary
- While two documents, they were developed jointly and integrate with each other
- Include a monitoring framework to track progress

The MDP and CTP provide a 60 year vision for the city. This is implemented through policies that will help achieve this vision over the next 30 years. The difference in the timeframes is that the urban structure and transportation networks (e.g. the maps) are established at a longer timeframe to give a sense of how best to evolve the city.

The monitoring framework has served us well in understanding our successes and areas of improvement. We have produced two reports, in 2014 and 2018, to track progress on key metrics. Many of the metrics we track look at longer-term change. We know there is a need to improve how we measure change at the decision-making level. We will be applying our lessons learned to help improve this approach going forward.

What are the MDP and CTP?



1 Urban Structure



2 Primary Transit Network

These maps provide an example of some of the spatial aspects of planning our city. While the envisioned, combined plan will provide improved integration between both the built form and transportation system, this does not mean the current plans are not integrated. Systems, such as the primary transit network, were closely aligned with main streets and activity centres to maximize the potential for ridership.



Sustainability Principles for Land Use and Mobility

1 Create a range of housing opportunities and choices

7 Strategically direct and manage redevelopment opportunities within existing areas



2 Create walkable environments

8 Support compact development

3 Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place

9 Connect people, goods and services locally, regionally and globally



4 Provide a variety of transportation options

10 Provide transportation services in a safe, effective, affordable and efficient manner that ensures reasonable accessibility to all areas of the city for all citizens

5 Preserve open space, agricultural land, natural beauty and critical environmental areas

6 Mix land uses



11 Utilize green infrastructure and buildings

Since we are undergoing a review of the plans, rather than a rewrite, we will continue to be guided by the 11 sustainability principles and 8 key directions for land use and mobility. These principles describe, at a high level, how we can best achieve the multiple outcomes that can make life better for more Calgarians.

Key Directions for Land Use and Mobility

1. Achieve a balance of growth between established and greenfield communities.
2. Provide more choice within complete communities.
3. Direct land use change within a framework of nodes and corridors.
4. Link land use and transit decisions.
5. Increase mobility choices.
6. Develop a Primary Transit Network.
7. Create complete streets.
8. Optimize infrastructure.

Calgary 

Municipal Development Plan Goals and Priorities

	Managing growth and change	<p><i>Core Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urban Expansion - Density - Accessibility to Daily Needs - Land Use Mix - Road & Street Infrastructure - Transit Service - Transportation Mode Split - Accessibility to Primary Transit - Residential Land Use Mix - Population and Job Balance - Goods Access - Watershed Health - District Energy - Urban Forest
	Shaping a more compact urban form	
	Connecting the city	
	Creating great communities	
	Urban design	
	Prosperous economy	
	Greening the city	

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To aforementioned principles and key directions manifest into seven goals and priorities for the MDP.

Our Plans focus on a core set of priorities:

- Balancing growth
- Creating complete communities
- Growing strategically in Activity Centres and Main Streets
- Providing more transportation choices
- Protecting the natural environment and supporting resiliency

How are the Plans Used



Evaluating proposed developments



Community planning and design



Infrastructure planning and design



City business plans and budgets

While the plans are focussed on Calgary's built form and transportation system, they are considered across The City of Calgary in a number of aspects. The plans help guide decisions around proposed developments, the types of neighbourhoods we build and what infrastructure we should provide. The plans are also important working with other levels of government as they help provide an overarching vision of what the City is trying to achieve – this is important as it helps obtain funding through demonstrating alignment with Provincial and Federal goals.

Key Question: What Could be Better?

Building a successful city with a great quality of life is an ongoing process. There will not be a point of absolute success where our job is complete. The guiding question for the review is thinking about what could be better that would help us get closer to our outcomes, and how we can get there.

Next 20

Making life better for more people

calgary.ca/Next20

So this brings us to our project, which will be known as Next 20. Next 20 was chosen as it is unique, easy to remember, and emphasizes the focus of our medium term actions that will be needed to achieve the long term outcomes and principles embedded in the plans. While the name is short it will generally be used in context with the broader project.



Mindset for Review and Revised Plan

- Needs to be nimble to respond to change
- Has to provide for today's reality while best preparing for an uncertain future state
- Should build on what is working well and identify areas for improvement
- Focus on incremental progress towards goals
- Increased focus on implementation

We are cognizant that our policies and ideas must have a clear path that enables implementation. Part of our review will be identifying content that is not facilitating this. We are also looking to ensuring our policies enable the city to be successful under a number of future scenarios so we do not lock ourselves into a single path. While focusing on incremental improvements and doing better, we acknowledge that in some aspects we may need to take more transformative actions to enable change to happen.



Identified Key Issues

-  Housing Affordability & Choices
-  Demographics & Health
-  Climate Change & Environment
-  Changing Economy
-  Equity and Inclusion
-  Changing Technology

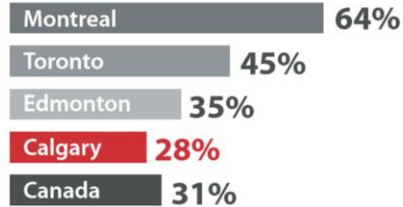
Here we outline several of the key issues we see this review and the subsequent new plan needing to address in a more substantial way than they may have been previously. These issues align with the five citizen priorities identified through The City's One Calgary Plan: a prosperous city, a city of safe and inspiring neighbourhoods, a city that moves, a healthy and green city, and a well-run city. Our activity later this morning will dive into exploring these issues under these themes.

I will now go through each topic in more detail.



Focus on Improving Affordability and Choice

Percentage rental



Calgary's lowest market **rental rates** are among the **highest in Canada**, and the supply is limited

More than **3,200** Calgarians are homeless



Income needed to afford average rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Calgary

\$53,000

Calgary may be more affordable than some cities in Canada but there are many families who struggle to find appropriate housing that suits their needs. Calgary has the highest income inequality among big Canadian cities. Most housing that has been provided in the City has been built during boom periods when incomes have been higher. We also recognize that some of the housing types we lack the most have not had appropriate conditions and incentives to enable them to come to market. The review needs to take these factors into consideration.



Since adopting the Plans, Calgary’s population has grown by approximately 20% to over 1.27 million – this is equivalent to the total population of Red Deer moving to Calgary - twice. Even after the economic shift in 2014, Calgary’s rate of growth slowed, but has remained positive, suggesting the potential to realize Calgarians’ vision for the future is within the horizons of our long-range Plans. Our population will also change. We will have an older population, and population growth will be less from new births and more from new Calgarians coming from elsewhere.

Calgary  **Focus on a Green and Healthy City for All**



1. Active Areas
2. People Places
3. Mix and Mingle
4. Empower Engagement
5. Character Communities
6. All Ages and Abilities
7. Growing Groceries
8. Resilient and Responsible

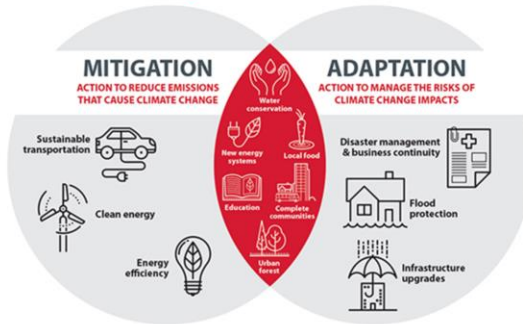
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While it may be obvious that some aspects of our city, such as the ease to walk and cycle or creating recreation opportunities, can increase health outcomes, there are many other ways in how our neighbourhoods are built that can have adverse affects on our health. For example, anticipated technology changes could have potential negative influence on both physical, as well as mental, health if not well considered. Health impacts can be challenging to measure, but we are exploring new ways to help us understand these impacts and make better decisions when designing our cities. For example, the Nose Creek Area Structure Plan used health as a basis for community design, and included a Health Impact Assessment. We will be looking at tools like this to set the stage for improved health outcomes over the next 20 years.

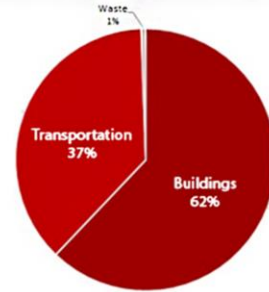


Focus on Natural Systems and Mitigating and Adapting to Impacts of Climate Change

Building Climate Resilience



Community-wide GHG Emissions by Source (2016)

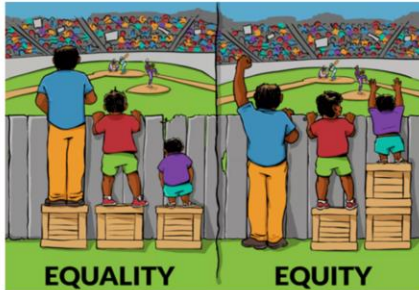


Alberta has experienced significant changes to our climate in recent decades. Climate modelling suggests that Calgary will experience more severe and frequent extreme weather events such as flooding, drought and the effects of wildfires. Transportation and buildings make up a significant proportion of Calgary’s greenhouse gas emissions. The City’s Climate Resilience Strategy complies with the federal objective to reduce overall emissions to 80% of 2005 levels by 2050. One of the challenges we will wrestle with through the review and new plan is how to reach these objectives while continuing to improve the quality of life in Calgary.

Climate is not the only aspect we need to consider. Our monitoring efforts have found that water runoff is increasing, which has impacts to overall watershed health. Our urban tree canopy is still recovering from past storms. These are aspects the plans will need to address to insure we continue to have a green, healthy and resilient city.



Focus on Improving Equity for All



The City has a mandate to consider diversity and equity in the planning of our city. This was considered in the current plans but we have new tools to help us identify gaps and there is a need to be more intentional around ensuring we better serve our wide diversity of citizens.

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Focus on Impact of New Technologies

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Autonomous vehicles were really just an idea when the plans were approved. Since that time, a wide range of autonomous technologies have progressed into prototypes and testing. While it is uncertain which technologies will become common and how fast they will be adopted, the review needs to consider how nimble and resilient our policies are under a range of possible technology scenarios. These technologies offer several opportunities for a better city, but this will only result through thoughtful planning.

But it's not just about transportation technologies. For example, smart phones have completely changed our lives. How we travel, interact with people and meet our daily needs have all transformed since the existing plans were produced. We need to continually assess new technologies, even those not directly related to city building, to understand what their potential impacts could be on our city.



Integration with the Region



As Calgary grows, so does our region. As we review and renew our plans, we will need to define our regional role in more detail than we have previously. This will be done in concert with planning work done at the regional level, including the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board (CMRB).

About the Project

An Exciting Opportunity

- Build on past successes and learnings.
- Direction to develop a single, integrated plan combining the MDP and CTP.
- Renew the conversation about how Calgary grows and changes.
- Make the plans more nimble and responsive to Calgary's changing circumstances.
- Increase plan usability.
- Address emerging trends and harness opportunities.
- Better prepare Calgary for the future.

This project offers a unique opportunity to step back and assess our progress towards our plans and discuss with our citizens what kind of city we want Calgary to be. Not only do we seek to create a unified plan, but we also recognize the plans need to be easy to use and understand if they are to be successful and supported.

Why You're Here

You offer a valuable perspective

- Individual experiences and knowledge
- Diverse voices
- Help shape our city's future

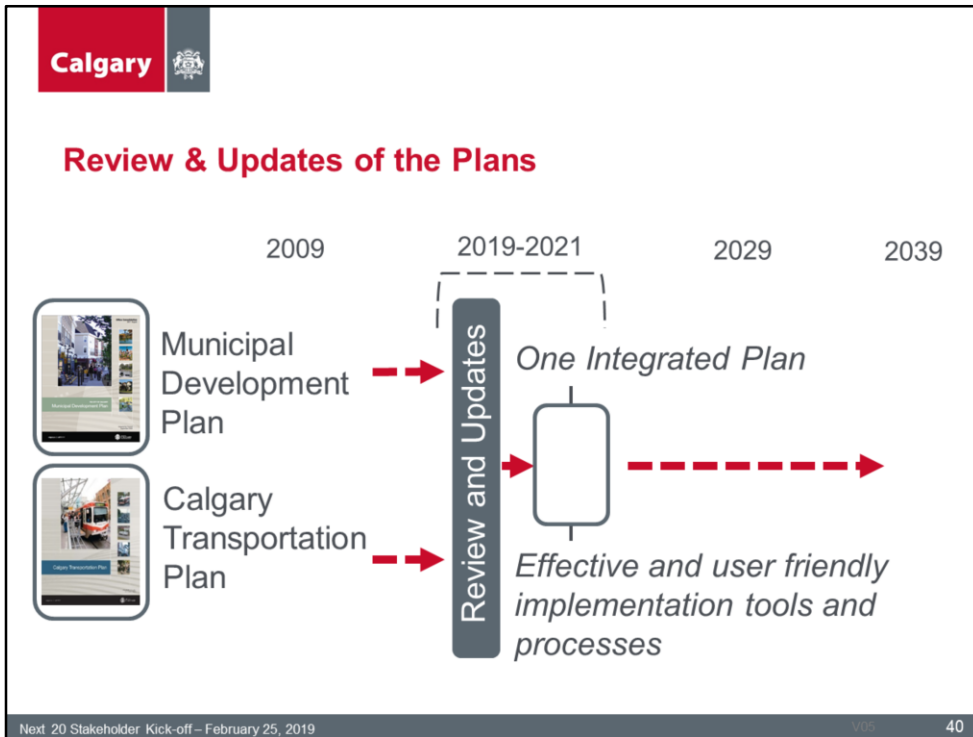
Your role

- Participate in focus group activities
- Share and canvas information within your broader network
- Provide input and feedback to the project team

You offer a valuable perspective that will help improve the likelihood of succeeding at our plans. Through this process, we need you to be respectful and only challenge ideas not others in the group personally. This doesn't mean holding back on your expertise because we do need you to challenge us and share with us your realities.

We can't be everywhere at once, and unfortunately we can't meet with everyone. So we give you the permission to share and canvas information about this work with your networks.

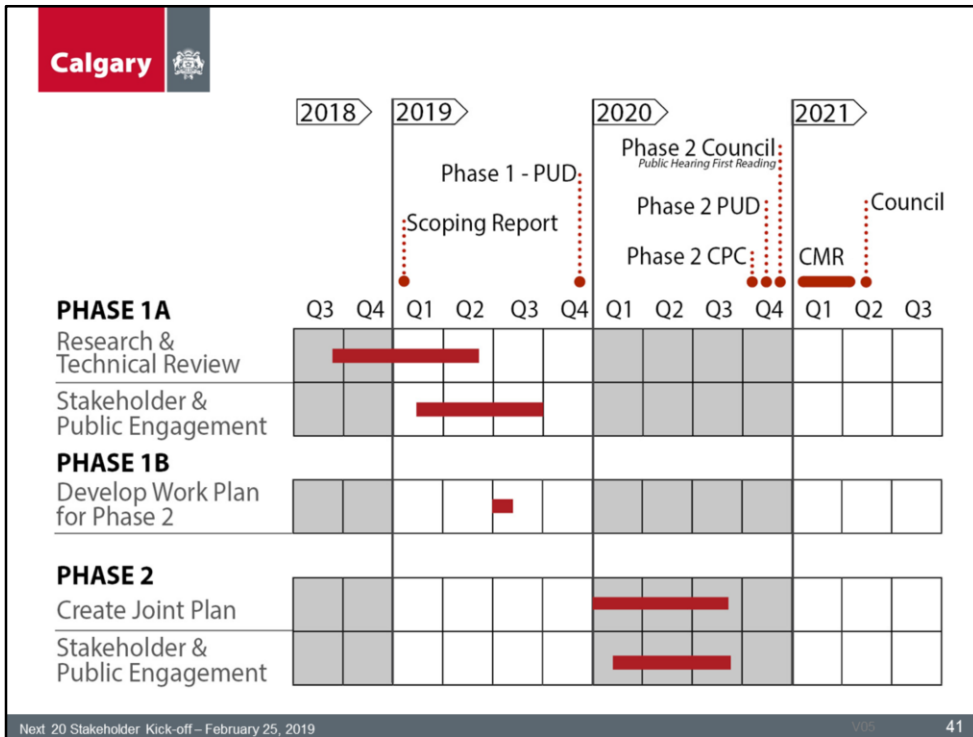
Note the focus group is one key path for stakeholder engagement but is not the only path. Staff are also meeting directly with key groups on technical aspects of the plans.



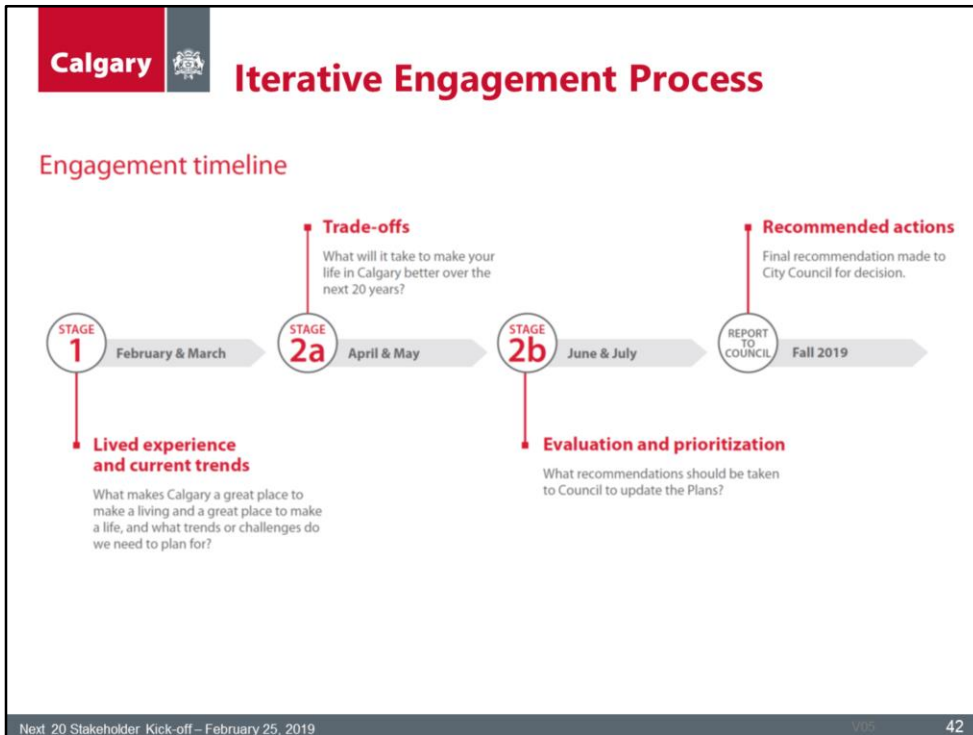
Over the course of the next 2 ½ years the project will review the plans and provide recommendation on how to update the plans to guide The City’s direction to 2039.

The outcome of the review is expected to be one consolidated city-wide comprehensive Plan that contains effective tools towards enabling desired growth and change and initiatives that achieve a more sustainable Calgary.

Our scope is outlined in more detail on our website. Key items that the review will look at include reviewing and updating our maps and policies, addressing gaps and new topics, and reviewing our monitoring system.



While the major work is ahead of us staff have begun work on the research and technical review. We expect to provide the recommendations from Phase 1, including a work plan for Phase 2, at the end of 2019. While we envision Phase 2 will be an updated, combined plan, the review will consider the value of other options, ranging from re-doing the plans to continuing with the existing plans. Assuming an updated joint Plan, this will be brought forward to Committee towards the end of 2020.



Our engagement approach is being designed to be iterative and responsive. Our objectives include having opportunities for a diverse cross-section of stakeholders to provide input, offering multiple opportunities for this input, and collect input that helps the project team better understand the values, interests, expectations, and priorities.



Multiple Streams of Input

	Public	Targeted Stakeholders (You!)	City Administration
Who	Everyone who lives, works and plays in Calgary.	Experts in specific areas of interest.	Subject matter experts from across The City.
Role	Attend events, take surveys, share your ideas! Help evaluate ideas and assess recommendations.	Participate in discussions, share your knowledge and perspectives! Help evaluate ideas and assess recommendations.	Incorporate stakeholder and public input where possible. Make recommendations and policy amendments.

Our public stream of input seeks to understand the perspectives, values, and experience of those who live, work and play in Calgary. Our targeted stakeholders stream, which includes you, seeks to incorporate specific expertise from people who are knowledgeable about key issues addressed by the Plan. Our City Administration stream will help incorporate stakeholder and public input where possible while ensuring that recommendations and policy amendments align with relevant City policies and can be implemented through city operations.

Questions?

calgary.ca/Next20

Thank you for your attention, and we welcome the opportunity to ask any questions. Before we do so, I would like to take a moment to introduce the project team.