



Jennifer Wyness, Ward 2 Councillor

Establishing a Fire Protective Services Committee

On May 26th, Council voted 14-0 to adopt the “Establishing a Fire Protective Services Committee” Notice of Motion that I brought forward. I proposed this motion because Calgary Fire is facing real and growing pressures, and the current governance model is not structured to respond to them with the urgency, clarity, and accountability that Calgarians deserve. Fire services are currently spread across multiple General Manager portfolios, which means important decisions about fire performance, staffing, capital planning, and long-term service delivery can be delayed or not given the attention they require.

At a time when call volumes are rising, response targets are not being met, and critical investments such as fire halls and specialized teams require more focused attention, Council needs a better structure to understand and respond to CFD’s needs. This is why I brought forward a Fire Services Committee: to create a dedicated public table where these questions can be answered regularly and transparently, and where Council can be more directly accountable for the fire service decisions it sets in motion through bylaws and budgets.

This model is designed to cut red tape, not add it. By keeping the committee within Council, rather than creating a separate commission, Calgary is choosing a governance structure that is faster, more accountable, and better able to keep pace with the pressures facing our fire service. It also gives Calgarians a clearer line of sight into fire governance and, importantly, makes this the first committee of its kind in Canada.

I look forward to continued collaboration with the Calgary Fire Department as we work to implement this committee over the coming months.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Wyness". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Jennifer Wyness