

2007 January 24

RE: Phasing Out the Cosmetic Use of Pesticides

Aldermen Ceci, Farrell, Pincott

WHEREAS, commonly used pesticides, including of herbicides, insecticides, fungicides and rodenticides, are widely known to be linked to various illnesses, including cancer;

AND WHEREAS, there are widely used and effective alternatives to synthetic chemical pesticides;

AND WHEREAS, The City of Calgary adopted the Imagine Calgary Long Range Sustainability Plan which includes the target to “reduce pesticide use to zero by 2010 for community and City operations”;

AND WHEREAS, over 135 municipalities and the Province of Quebec have phased out the cosmetic use of pesticides on public and private lands;

AND WHEREAS, The City of Calgary, under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, is entrusted to “develop and maintain safe and viable communities”, and shall pass bylaws to protect the “health and safety of people”;

AND WHEREAS, unnecessary exposure to pesticides is, under the precautionary principle, considered a threat to health and safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Administration bring forward a report to SPC Utilities & Environment no later than June 2008 with an implementation plan on phasing out of the cosmetic use of pesticides, to be achieved on public lands no later than December 2009 and private lands no later than December 2010. The implementation plan is to include proposal for a draft by-law.