



# Business

Calgary's economic success depends on businesses being able to start, grow, thrive and compete. This includes ensuring enough industrial land, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship and maintaining strong goods movement networks that connect businesses to local and global markets. It encourages innovation and business activity across the city, helping Calgary attract investment and strengthen its role as a regional distribution centre.

## What did we hear from Calgarians?

Support for small businesses.

Desire for more economic opportunities.

More options to get to work in areas outside of the downtown.

Residents support corner store and small commercial uses in neighbourhoods.

Support for job creation and economic growth.

## What does the Calgary Plan say?

- Support new and existing businesses, innovation and local jobs.
- Make city processes easier to help small businesses and equity groups.
- Encourage retail, services, childcare, arts, culture and local commercial growth.
- Support food production, urban farming, agri-tourism and low-carbon industries.
- Maintain a supply of high-quality industrial lands to foster business investment and economic growth.
- Support economic diversification and enable emerging technologies, sectors and manufacturing activities to thrive.
- Ensure efficient goods movement networks connecting Calgary to regional, national and international markets.

## What is consistent with the current MDP?

- Residents have convenient access to services, childcare, retail and daily necessities.
- Support for a diverse economy that supports innovation, small businesses and employment across the city.
- Retail, services and destinations are integrated with transit and distributed citywide.
- Industrial areas are protected with strong goods movement connections, room for industry clustering and sufficient long-term land capacity.
- Employment areas have transit access, amenities and services to support workers and a mix of uses.

## What has changed?

### Small business support

Support user friendly processes for new and small businesses.

### Why?

Simplification and cutting red tape

### Plan reference

2.1.5 Economic growth and participation

### Protecting land for industry

Protect key industrial land from development pressure by limiting conversion to non-industrial uses. Retain sites connected to the goods movement network. Areas near transit may accommodate limited non-industrial uses that foster innovation and employment, without undermining industrial operations.

Infrastructure keeping pace with growth

2.2.5 Industrial

**Removed:** Sector-specific land use location policies have been removed to enable flexible, citywide mixed-use development supporting businesses, institutions and services throughout Calgary.

Simplification and cutting red tape

Retail policies have been simplified to allow retail uses in more locations across Calgary.



### Goods movement network

Specific transportation routes that are managed to support the efficient movement of freight (goods) by truck and other commercial vehicles across the city and to regional, national and international road, rail and air networks.



### Connections to the Zoning Bylaw

The new Zoning Bylaw will be a tool to help implement the Calgary Plan's guidance for businesses. Residential zones allow shops and services close to home. Industrial zones protect industrial land while providing flexibility. Consolidated uses and streamlined processes make it easier for new businesses to find a location and for existing businesses to change their space to meet new demands.

Related Council priorities:

**Balanced growth and evolving neighbourhoods**



Check out the draft Calgary Plan | [calgary.ca/citybuilding](http://calgary.ca/citybuilding)