



---

**Policy Title: Integration of Emergency Services into The City of Calgary Land Use, Infrastructure and Mobility Planning Policy**

**Policy Number: CSPA033**

**Report Number: CPS2010-30**

**Approved by: Council**

**Effective Date: 2010 May 17**

**Business Units: Calgary Fire Department, Planning & Development, Transportation Planning**

---

## **BACKGROUND**

The City of Calgary's (The City) emergency service providers, namely the Calgary Fire Department, Calgary Police Service, Calgary Community Standards, 9-1-1, and Calgary Emergency Management Agency, are essential partners in The City's land use, infrastructure and mobility planning processes. Collaborative planning with these groups contributes to the development of emergency services safe communities and is part of a broader complete community planning approach that respects, complements and supports the many factors that make up Calgary's vibrant, safe communities.

This policy is not intended to replace existing statutory roles and responsibilities of impacted business units of The City, instead, as a result of this policy, emergency service providers planning, prevention, response, protection and public evacuation requirements and input will be considered an equal stakeholder in The City's planning processes. In addition, it aligns with other existing policies related to emergency services inclusion in planning processes such as those identified in the Municipal Development Plan and Calgary Transportation Plan.

## **PURPOSE**

Implementation of the policy will result in:

- Enhanced societal safety resulting from communities and infrastructure that consider emergency planning, preparedness, response, protection and recovery principles.
- Safer communities and infrastructure resulting from an improved, more comprehensive understanding of the hazards and risks associated with these areas.
- Reduced crime as a result of incorporation of crime prevention strategies into community and civic project design.

- Ongoing attention to maintaining or enhancing emergency response times through community, transportation and transit planning that makes accommodation for emergency vehicle requirements.
- More effective use of resources by encouraging preventative mitigation of protection, response and evacuation concerns. Collaboration during the initial phases of planning provides more options for cost-effective ways of delivering emergency services to new, redeveloped or higher risk areas and reduces spending on combating response or protection problems after infrastructure and communities are in place.
- Shared understanding among all emergency service providers and The City planning groups of legislated standards related to building, fire, police and safety codes, acts and bylaws.
- Modified procedures to deal with incidents on city streets as quickly as possible to minimize the impact on mobility for Calgarians.
- A balanced, complete community approach to incorporating emergency services provider's requirements that considers other stakeholder needs and identifies mutually determined mitigation strategies.

## **POLICY**

This policy provides guiding principles for how emergency service providers and The City's planning groups will work together to enhance safety of Calgary's communities and infrastructure. The type of input from emergency services providers in The City's policies, plans and processes will depend on the nature of each project.

### **Guiding Principles**

#### **1. Protect Calgarians**

- Every Calgarian must have access to an appropriate level of emergency services protection. Preventative initiatives implemented by emergency service providers and proactive planning for response to various types of emergencies protects the lives of citizens and emergency responders alike. These public safety considerations will be built into all The City's planning and design processes so that input related to public safety is incorporated.
- Emergency service providers are responsible for ensuring an appropriate level of emergency protection, an adequate and equitable distribution of response service across Calgary and coverage to all communities and developments.

#### **2. Safeguard Communities**

- The City creates and encourages safe communities. Emergency protection, response and public evacuation is compatible with sustainable, walkable community design and will be one of the considerations in designing safe, liveable communities and the services that support them. The City must have transportation, land use, community, building and housing designs that are safe for emergency service providers, not only in residential community designs, but also in higher risk regions such as areas around and near resource extraction sites, public gathering spaces, industrial-residential interface zones, wild land-

urban interface zones, institutional areas, commercial districts, and railways and transportation corridors.

- The City's planning, policies, and initiatives will accommodate emergency service provider's ability to respond. Access, egress and public evacuation routes will be planned into communities or developments including the services that support them.
- Planning will consider a broad spectrum of emergency protection and response, including, but not limited to, criminal acts, fires, medical incidents, mass casualty events, rescues, hazardous materials handling and acts of terrorism.
- A greater concentration of emergency protection planning, response and public evacuation resources is required where higher levels of risk exist or where the population is the most vulnerable. Appropriate resources must be available within various regions to concentrate on individual incidents as they occur. Collaborative planning identifies these risks at the onset of planning and develops mitigation strategies to ensure people are safe as they live, work, play, and visit Calgary.

### **3. Share Responsibility**

- The City's emergency service providers and other business units, external agencies and the development industry work collaboratively to keep Calgarians safe, protected and prepared for emergencies. These groups all have a shared responsibility and a shared role in emergency preparedness and response.
- Calgary's growth and reputation in planning and development, and as a major urban centre, includes the provision of essential public safety services such as fire protection, police services, emergency medical care and bylaw enforcement. Effective planning for response to a variety of types of emergencies ideally reduces the occurrence of emergencies, and should limit the extent of damage in those that do occur.

### **4. Manage Risk**

- All emergency planning, preparedness, response and recovery will comply with federal and provincial legislation and align with proven industry-based standards/protocols and engineering principles.
- Community safety is enhanced through community and building design that reduces opportunities for crime, controls fire spread, provides access for emergency vehicles, ensures adequate water supply for the fire load and locates emergency service stations and resources within the response guidelines approved by the municipality.
- The needs of emergency service protection, response and public evacuation will be integrated with planning processes of other departments of The City to ensure long-term economic, social and environmental sustainability.

## **PROCEDURE**

Administration is responsible for developing a management framework that will act as a blueprint for the implementation and administration of the Integration of Emergency Services into The City's Land Use, Infrastructure and Mobility Planning Policy. It will clearly outline: a definition of emergency services safe communities; roles and responsibilities; the administrative processes, plans and policies for emergency services input; and defined outcomes. The management framework will continue to evolve over time as planning and administrative processes and practices are developed and evaluated.

## **AMENDMENTS**

Effective 2016 February 01, Public Safety Communications became Calgary 9-1-1