



# Council highlights

## **Delegation ~ Cochrane Settlement Community Association**

Igor Visser, President, Cochrane Settlement Community Association, presented the associations view on community impacts of the proposal to put an affordable housing development on the former RCMP site at 359 First Street East.

## **2026 Citizens' Budget**

Kristin Huybrecht, Manager, Corporate Communications, presented Cochrane's first Citizens' Budget, a plain-language, visually driven publication designed to help residents better understand the Town's 2026 budget. While the full 2026 budget book provides comprehensive detail, the Citizens' Budget offers an accessible, high-level overview that residents can quickly review, understand and share.

The Citizens' Budget will be distributed primarily through digital channels, with limited print copies available at Town facilities and community events.

Council provided feedback to inform future iterations of the publication.

## **Utility Rate Review**

Shawn Tooth, Director of Utilities, introduced Kris Nelson, Urban Systems, to provide an overview of the utility rate review process and to seek Council's direction regarding the

proposed priorities that will guide the development of updated utility rates

Administration is undertaking a comprehensive review of the Town of Cochrane's utility rates for water, wastewater, and stormwater services. Utility rate reviews are periodically completed to ensure rates reflect the full cost of service delivery, maintain financial sustainability, and support long-term infrastructure investment.

Council accepted this presentation as information.

## **Wastewater Pipeline Update**

The Calgary, Harmony, Rocky View, Cochrane (CHRC) Wastewater Pipeline project entered a pivotal phase in 2026. Through continued regional collaboration and updated technical analysis, Administration has identified a credible opportunity to delay full pipeline twinning by approximately 5–7 years, subject to confirmation of updated Harmony Franchise Area flow projections.

At the same time, the Calling Horse Creek syphon has been identified as over-pressurized, requiring replacement. This work is required regardless of regional servicing decisions and has been approved as part of the 2026 capital budget process, work on this project has progressed over the past year. Administration has advanced preliminary design and alignment planning and is currently engaged in discussions with Rocky



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View County regarding the preferred pipeline alignment along Township Road 250 at the Calling Horse Creek crossing.

Council directed Administration to continue with technical planning, intermunicipal negotiations and regional collaboration with the City of Calgary, Rocky View County and EPCOR in support of advancing the Calgary, Harmony, Rocky View, Cochrane (CHRC) Wastewater Servicing initiative, and to report back to Council with recommendations as required.

## **Notice of Motion ~ Seasonal Patio pilot**

Councillor Wilson introduced Councillor Singh's motion requesting that Administration explore the reintroduction of a seasonal patio expansion program, similar to previous years, with appropriate restrictions to maintain safe pedestrian passage, and with consideration for streamlined approvals and clear operational guidelines, and report back to Council with options for a time-limited pilot for the 2026 season by April 30, 2026.

This item will come back to the April 7, 2026 Regular Council meeting.

## **Closed Session ~ Personnel**

Following the Closed Session, Council passed the motion to appoint Mr. Drew Hyndman as Chief Administrative Officer, effective March 16, 2026.