

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Committee of the Whole Highlights  
Monday, February 7, 2022



## DELEGATION - ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Randy Bryksa, Associate Executive Director in the Calgary Zone provided Council with an update on the current state of EMS in Cochrane. Mr. Bryksa confirmed that Cochrane currently has two ambulances available to provide care on a 24/7 basis, as well as a Basic Life Support ambulance that is currently available 8 hours/day, 5 day/week. Effective February 25, this BLS ambulance service will be expanded to 16 hours a day with a primary focus of interfacility transport. The four key challenges identified by AHS EMS include:

- Increased event volume (+30%)
- Prolonged hospital waits
- Fluctuating EMS staffing levels
- Suburban rural resources coming into the city

Between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021, there were 2,383 calls for emergency medical services in Cochrane. Mr. Bryksa confirmed that staff resources have been relatively consistent over the last 10 years, despite the significant growth that Cochrane has experienced.

Recognizing the concerns identified by Council and evident in our community, Mr. Bryksa committed to bringing regular updates back to Council. And further requested the support of the Town in sharing the message with the community and advocating to the Province for additional support.

## WILLOWS WEST LAND USE AMENDMENT

The Willows West land use amendment application proposes to change the zoning of 2.65 acres to allow for a clean up the boundaries to allow for future residential development.

The change from a commercial to residential zoning is in alignment with the Willows Neighbourhood Plan and allows for more desirable development of the site as this area is separated from the existing commercial area by a major electrical transmission line as well as a pipeline.

This amendment will also support future allocation of public utility lots where existing pipelines and power transmission lines are located.

## LAND USE BYLAW 01/2022

In 2018, Administration initiated a comprehensive review and rewrite of the Land Use Bylaw to ensure it meets the land use and development needs of Cochrane. The current Bylaw was adopted in 2004. The land use bylaw controls and regulates what can and cannot occur on a parcel of land and how buildings can be placed and constructed on that parcel.

Throughout the creation of the bylaw, public and stakeholder feedback has been gathered and incorporated. New districts, land uses, regulations, and development tools have been implemented to create a resulting document which responds to current needs while remaining flexible for an ever-evolving community. Administration provided Council with an overview of the key highlights of the bylaw. Following Council consideration and pending adoption of the bylaw, the final phase includes implementing the new bylaw and initiating a monitoring program which will track the performance of new regulations. The project team will bring monitoring reports forward to Council at six and 12 months following final bylaw approval. Consequential amendments of Bylaw 01/2022 are expected and will be coordinated to be brought forward to Council together following the analysis of how regulations are functioning.

Council Highlights is a summary of actions and decisions; it is not an official record of the meeting. Council meeting minutes are presented at the next scheduled Council meeting and become official once approved. For the full archive of agendas and minutes, please go to [www.cochrane.ca/Agendas](http://www.cochrane.ca/Agendas)

Council Highlights is prepared by Town of Cochrane Legislative Services.  
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