

November 26, 2018

City of Calgary  
Office of the Councillors  
PO Box 2100, Station M  
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2M5

*Via email*

**Re: One Calgary: 2019-2022 Service Plans and Budget**

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Dear Mayor and Councillors,

Bike Calgary wishes to communicate our support for increased investments for bicycling in Calgary.

Bike Calgary is a not-for-profit society with over 2700 members. We strive to improve conditions for bicyclists through education, advocacy, and community building.

Our city is at a crossroads. We know that, thanks to decreased business activity, the City's revenues are down. We also know that you, along with many Calgarians, are working hard to build Calgary's future so that we come out of this downturn stronger than ever.

Over the last few years, we've learned that businesses across the spectrum want safe options for their employees and customers to get around. The small bakery that pushed for cycle tracks in front of their shop for their clients; the large commercial real estate owner who uses bike amenities to attract tenants; the international tech behemoth that requires bike lanes where they locate their second headquarters: whatever your vision is for a revitalized Calgary, if we're making it attractive for businesses, safe biking must be built into the fabric of our city.

Over the last few years, we've also made good progress on improving conditions for biking. The cycle track network downtown, improvements to the pathway network, and closing gaps in on-street bike lanes have all led to increased mode share for biking. Despite the large vacancy rate downtown, biking is up as a percentage of trips *and* in absolute numbers. Though it's early days, the bike share pilot is promising, and has already attracted investors to Calgary. We've learned that investments in biking yield high returns for low risk.

Over the next few years, we have an opportunity to build on what we've started. By completing some key missing links in our on-street and pathway networks, we can continue to reap the rewards and show Calgarians and the world that we truly want everyone to be safe and comfortable on our streets.

We know that you have passed and approved many strategies geared towards improving biking in Calgary. Budgets speak louder than words, so we ask you, now, to make the corresponding investments.



We thank you for the opportunity to provide our input on the service plans and budget for 2019-2022.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Millard".

Gary Millard  
President, Bike Calgary