



# Review of Council Policy No. 368 – Council Policy Framework

May 5, 2025

# Background

- ▶ Council Policy Framework was adopted on July 13, 2013, last amended in 2015.
- ▶ Policy Framework promotes good governance by establishing procedures and responsibilities for Council policies.
- ▶ Staff are proposing significant changes to enhance policy and achieve several key goals.

# More Regular Policy Reviews

- ▶ Council policies benefit from regular, consistent reviews.
- ▶ A significant number of Council policies have room for improvement.
- ▶ Revised Policy Framework requires all policies to be reviewed at least once every four years.

# Strengthened Accountability

- ▶ Each policy assigned to a responsible department.
- ▶ Responsible department has a clear role in implementing, managing and reviewing policies.
- ▶ Staff will work to ensure that every existing policy is assigned to a responsible department.



# Clarified Set of Best Practices

- ▶ Expanded Policy Framework includes a foundational set of best practices for policy work.
- ▶ This includes:
  - ▶ considering new policies only when there is a compelling need;
  - ▶ consulting with all impacted stakeholders; and
  - ▶ ensuring that policies are consistent with the overall goals and strategic direction of Council.

# Elimination of Low-Value Policies

- ▶ Staff are seeking to proactively identify low-value policies and bring forward for rescission consideration.
- ▶ Preliminary estimate is that at least 20% of all Council policies are in the 'low-value' category.
- ▶ Clerk's Office will work with departments to identify low-value policies and bring forward in a single report.

# Conclusion

- ▶ An enhanced Policy Framework will strengthen good governance, transparency and accountability.
- ▶ Next steps:
  - ▶ Office of the City Clerk staff to bring forward low-value policies for rescission consideration.
  - ▶ 4-year policy review cycle to commence in 2026.



*Questions?*

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