

NM2009- April 06

RE: Addressing the Dangers of Unsightly/Abandoned Property by the Fire Department

Alderman Diane Colley-Urquhart

WHEREAS the City of Calgary has seen an increased number of structures being used for marijuana grow operations and illegal drug neighborhood factories, which when abandoned become unsightly, unsafe, and unlivable within City communities;

AND WHEREAS The City of Calgary Fire Department after inspecting these structures to confirm that they do not meet safety and building code legislation are deemed to be unlivable and harmful to public safety and should be remediated in a timely manner;

AND WHEREAS The City of Calgary Fire Department which operates under Bylaw 37M84, Operation of a Fire Department, in section 7 states that "*The Fire Chief shall have complete responsibility and authority over the Fire Department and shall be subject to the direction and control of Council to which he shall be responsible, and in particular he shall be required to carry out all fire protection activities and such other activities as Council directs through the General Manager of Community and Protective Services including, but not limited to, the following:*

- a) *rescue*
- b) *other incidents*
- c) *disaster planning*
- d) *preventative patrol*

AND WHEREAS under the Municipal Government Act R.S.A. 2000 Division 4 **Enforcement of Municipal law** section 546 **Order to Remedy Dangers and Unsightly Property**, these unsightly structures, if deemed to be causing danger to public safety, may be eliminated or demolished;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Administration be directed to bring a report to Council through the SPC on Community and Protective Services on enforcement options regarding derelict or abandoned properties used in connection with illegal drug manufacture or production, including the possibility of amending Bylaw 37M84 to allow the Fire Chief or his designate to issue remediation or demolition orders under Section 546 of the Municipal Government Act;

2. Such report to be brought to the SPC on Community and Protective Services no later than June of 2009.



Alderman Diane Colley-Urquhart