

NM2008-October 22

RE: CALGARY'S FARMERS' MARKET

Alderman Diane Colley-Urquhart

WHEREAS The Calgary Farmers' Market (CFM), has operated successfully in the "Currie Barracks development area", and creates significant economic, environmental, social and cultural benefits for the Calgary region; and

WHEREAS the CFM is the largest farmers' market in the Calgary region (with 85 vendors and 1.2 Million visitors in 2007) operating under the auspices of the ABC Farmers Market Society and the Calgary Farmers' Market New Generation Coop and was recognized by the North American Farm Direct Marketing Association in 2007 as the "Best Planned Market on the Continent"; and

WHEREAS the CFM, in its present location, operates under a lease from Canada Lands Inc. that will expire in November 2009, and must explore an alternative location for its ongoing operations within the coming year; and

WHEREAS the CFM could benefit from the active participation of the City of Calgary to expedite the evaluation and recommendation of suitable alternative municipal locations as soon as possible; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct Administration to:

1. Assist the CFM in identifying, evaluating and recommending potential municipal sites for the continued operation of the market;
2. Clarify CFM expectations for financial or other appropriate forms of support from the City of Calgary in the context of each alternative, and indicate options for the City of Calgary involvement with each alternative;
3. Report to Council through the SPC on Community and Protective Services with recommendations no later than February 2009.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a final flourish.