



Amendments to the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw

Electoral Division: All

File: N/A

Date: April 8, 2025

Presenter: Jesse Sopko, Executive Director, Corporate Services

Department: Legislative Services

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to bring forward Council-directed amendments to the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw C-8338-2022.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council give first reading of Bylaw C-8626-2025.

THAT Council give second reading of Bylaw C-8626-2025.

THAT Council consider third reading of Bylaw C-8626-2025.

THAT Council give third reading of Bylaw C-8626-2025.

BACKGROUND

At the November 26, 2024 Council meeting, Council directed Administration to bring forward amendments to the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw, with the following resolution:

THAT Council direct Administration to bring forward amendments to the Council Code of Conduct (Bylaw C-8338-2022) at the December 3, 2024 Council meeting to only allow current Rocky View County Councillors to file formal complaints under the Bylaw.

At the same meeting, Council directed Administration to work with Rocky View County's Complaints Adjudicator to bring forward additional amendments to the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw, with the following resolution:

THAT Council direct Administration to work with the Complaints Adjudicator to review and bring forward recommended amendments to the Council Code of Conduct (Bylaw C-8388-2022) and return to Council with a report no later than the end of Q1 2025.

In response to this direction, and in coordination with the County's Complaints Adjudicator, Administration has prepared additional amendments to the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw for Council's consideration (Attachment A).

Amendments to the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw

ANALYSIS

The proposed amendments establish new processes for addressing code of conduct matters informally between councillors as an alternative to the formal complaint process. The proposed amendments would provide Councillors with an escalating informal code of conduct process:

- First, discussion between the two councillors would be facilitated by an advisor appointed by the Complaints Adjudicator, with the goal of finding a satisfactory resolution to the code of conduct matter; and
- If facilitated discussions with an advisor are unsuccessful, the two councillors may proceed to a mediation process facilitated by an independent, third-party mediator. The mediator may be mutually agreed upon by the two councillors or appointed by the Complaints Adjudicator.

Administration notes that, if the proposed amendments are passed, councillors could still address code of conduct matters through the formal code of conduct complaint process even after pursuing the informal process, or without first pursuing the informal process.

COMMUNICATIONS / ENGAGEMENT

If the proposed amendments to the *Council Code of Conduct Bylaw* are adopted by Council, the consolidated Council Code of Conduct Bylaw would be published on the County's website.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

Should the Complaints Adjudicator appoint either an advisor or a mediator to assist with the proposed informal complaint processes, additional costs would apply in the form of consultant fees. However, the resolution of matters at the informal dispute resolution stage may prevent investigation costs that would apply through a formal complaint process.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Section 146.1(1) of the *Municipal Government Act* mandates that a municipality must adopt a bylaw that governs the conduct of councillors.

ALTERNATE DIRECTION

Alternate Direction 1

THAT Council refer the *Council Code of Conduct Bylaw* to the Governance Committee for further discussion on the proposed bylaw amendments.

Alternate Direction 2

THAT Council refer the *Council Code of Conduct Bylaw* to Administration for further revisions prior to further consideration of the bylaw.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Council Code of Conduct Bylaw C-8626-2025

Attachment B: Current Bylaw C-8338-2022 consolidated redline version

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APPROVALS

Manager:	Tyler Andreasen, Acting Manager, Legislative Services
Executive Director/Director:	Jesse Sopko, Executive Director, Corporate Services
Chief Administrative Officer:	Reegan McCullough, Chief Administrative Officer

