



**June 14, 2024**

Edmonton City Council  
City of Edmonton  
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square  
Edmonton, AB T5J 4R7

**Re: Letter of Support for Construction Site Safety and Accountability –  
Impact Assessment**

Dear Urban Planning Committee and Members of City Council,

BILD Edmonton Metro is a non-profit organization representing over 500 companies in the real estate sector, including home builders, developers, renovators, financial and professional service organizations, trade contractors, and manufacturers and suppliers of all types of commercial and home-oriented products. As the unified voice of the industry, we collaborate with municipal governments on issues affecting the real estate sector, providing key insights and expertise on policies, processes, and timelines.

In recent years, we have actively supported Council and Administration in advancing key planning and development initiatives, from The City Plan to the Zoning Bylaw Renewal. Together with the City of Edmonton, we have and continue to work toward a healthy housing market, enhanced quality of life, and are committed to positioning Edmonton as a national leader in planning and development. As your partners in city building, we share in your vision and mindset to develop safe and sustainable communities.

In recent years, the building industry has made significant strides in enhancing safety and compliance. As noted in Administration's report, from 2022 to 2023 there was a significant reduction in infill complaints, compliance issues, and Safety Codes Orders. Between 2022 and 2023 alone, complaints decreased from 404 to 167, and Safety Codes Orders dropped from 43 to 20. This improvement reflects the increased responsibility, education, and proactive efforts of our builders.

With Administration's introduction of the Project Implementation Plan, we can further enhance compliance and safety by setting clear expectations and accountability, benefiting both builders and the community.

Our builders also support the introduction of a Construction Accountability Program, recognizing the need for ongoing industry education and supports to assist builders with best practice. The program's intended outcome should focus



on fair and consistent notifications and enforcement without burdening compliant builders that meet standards. Our members look forward to further engagement with city staff to develop a program that is both effective and rational.

We trust that the explanation provided by Administration in their report contains enough information for Council to understand that the impact of mandatory professional involvement in shoring and excavation will increase housing costs and construction timelines. Additionally, bond and grant programs, due to feasibility issues, complexity, and legal implications, may lead to further project delays and even more cost for both the city to administer and builders to participate in.

BILD Edmonton Metro members are dedicated to maintaining high standards of safety and compliance. We support initiatives that enhance accountability and protect our communities and labour force while ensuring that regulations do not impose undue burdens.

We appreciate your time and consideration of these important issues and look forward to working together to ensure a safe and prosperous future for Edmonton's construction industry.

Sincerely,

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