

Backyard Suites Incentive Program: Workshop

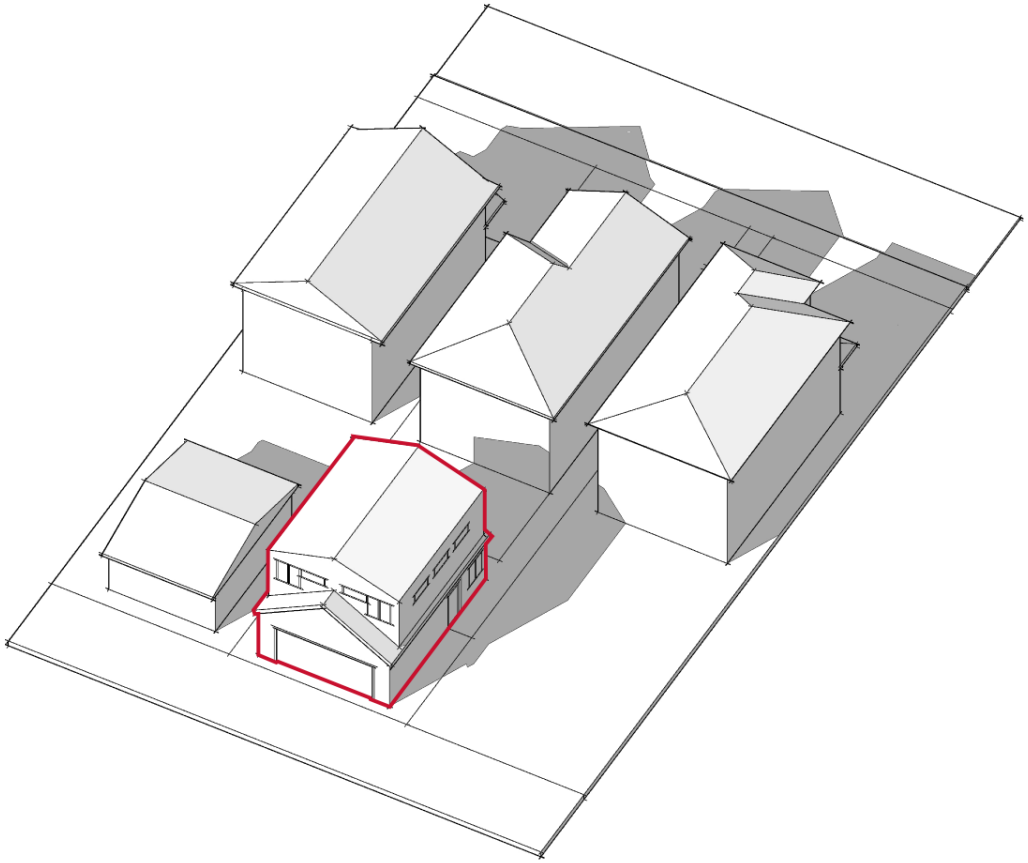
City of Calgary – December 2025



Workshop Norms

- Everyone participates, no one dominates
- A & A Rule (Adding and Alternatives)
- Defer judgement
- Go for quantity
- Respect your needs

Welcome and purpose



Welcome

Why we're here today

Who this session is for

What we'll cover

What is the incentive program?



Support for building backyard suites



Aiming for 200–250 units by 2027

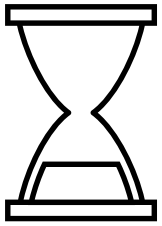


Funded by HAF (federal)



Launching in 2026

Limitations



Time to make systematic changes



Land use Bylaw changes



Funding: amount, time and method

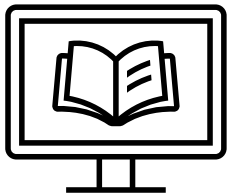


External and internal partners

Four key themes we're exploring



Financial support



Education



Improving City processes



Design simplification



Financial support

Incentive details

- Program to support 200 – 250 units
- Average funding: $20 – 40K per suite

What we know:

Unexpected costs

- Underground service upgrades
- City infrastructure requirements
- Other utility costs

Backyard suites are costly

- Equivalent to building a second house

What financial barriers have halted, stalled or kept projects from starting?





Financial support cont.
Factors

Possible influencing factors

- Accessibility
- Suite size (# bedrooms)
- Energy efficiency
- Building height or parking requirements
- Heritage
- Infrastructure upgrades
- Utilities changes

What factors might be worth considering?





Education / content improvement

- What information would be helpful to know before starting a project?
- How can the City set a future backyard suite owner up for success?

What tools can the incentive include to better prepare you?





Design simplification

- What is your experience
- What challenges have you faced

What type of design supports would be beneficial?

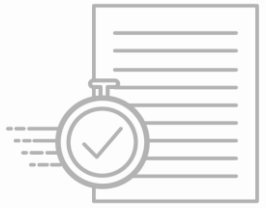




Improving City processes

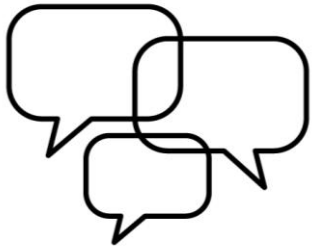
- Timeline pain points
- Disconnect in City processes
- Third party partners
  - Indemnified contractors
  - Utilities

What would be the most helpful?



Stay connected and help us spread the word







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for the latest info:
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