

Policy Title: PUBLIC STATEMENTS POLICY

Policy #: F-112

Effective Date: March 19, 2024

Date adopted by Council: March 19, 2024



POLICY

Jasper is a welcoming and inclusive community which works to increase awareness about the issues faced by under-represented groups; promote cultural diversity; and create an environment where all citizens feel valued and empowered.

Council recognizes that as a democratically elected body it can play a crucial role in shaping perceptions; fostering social cohesion; supporting vulnerable and marginalized populations; and advancing broader political and social objectives on behalf of the people it represents through the use of public statements.

All public statements endorsed by the Municipality shall be processed consistently, foster inclusion, and advance dignity and respect within the community.

PURPOSE

This policy is intended to provide consistency and equity in how requests for public statements are handled.

SCOPE

This policy applies to any requests, including but not limited to, requests for proclamations, letters of support, non-standard crosswalks and flag raisings at municipal facilities.

STANDARDS

Council may authorize requests for proclamations, letters of support, non-standard crosswalks and flag raisings at municipal facilities.

The request must be brought forward by either a not-for-profit organization located or having a presence within the municipality, or a citizen of the Municipality of Jasper.

Requests should meet at least one of the following criteria. The cause should be:

- Of local, provincial, national, or international significance;
- Of benefit to the community; or
- An initiative of the Municipality of Jasper.

Requests must align with Council's strategic priorities and Council policies.

Requests may be denied for any reason deemed sufficient by Council.

Requests may not be contrary to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, or the Alberta Human Rights Act.

All requests must be submitted in accordance with the steps described in the Administrative Procedure associated with this policy.

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DEFINITIONS

“**Dignity**” means the inherent worth and value of every individual, regardless of their background, identity or circumstance.

“**Respect**” means the fundamental principles which guide the behavior of individuals interacting with one another with civility, consideration and fairness.

“**Public Statements**” means actions endorsed by Council resolution which may not directly address substantive policy challenges, or operational matters but nonetheless have value in their ability to inspire, unify, and communicate the community’s priorities to the wider world. Public statements may include but are not limited to proclamations, letters of support, non-standard crosswalks and flag raisings at municipal facilities.

RESPONSIBILITY

Council:

Review and approve any revisions to this policy.

CAO:

Review and approve any procedures related to this policy.

Directors and Managers:

Carry out the policy based on established procedures.