

Urban Planning and Economy

Edmonton

## **One Year Review of Child Care Services**

June 3, 2025, Urban Planning Committee

Travis Pawlyk, Branch Manager - Development Services

Shauna Kuiper, Director - Planning Coordination

Katherine Pihooja - Planning Coordination

## Previous Council/Committee Action

At the October 16-23, 2023 City Council Public Hearing, the following motion was passed:

- *That Administration, as part of the Zoning Bylaw (Charter Bylaw 20001) one-year review report, include analysis on the Child Care Services provision since enactment of Charter Bylaw 20001 and provide options for amendments to further expand opportunities for Child Care Services, if required.*

# Child Care Services in the Zoning Bylaw

## Standard Zones

- 16 out of 23 standard zones list Child Care Services as a permitted use

## General Child Care Services Regulations

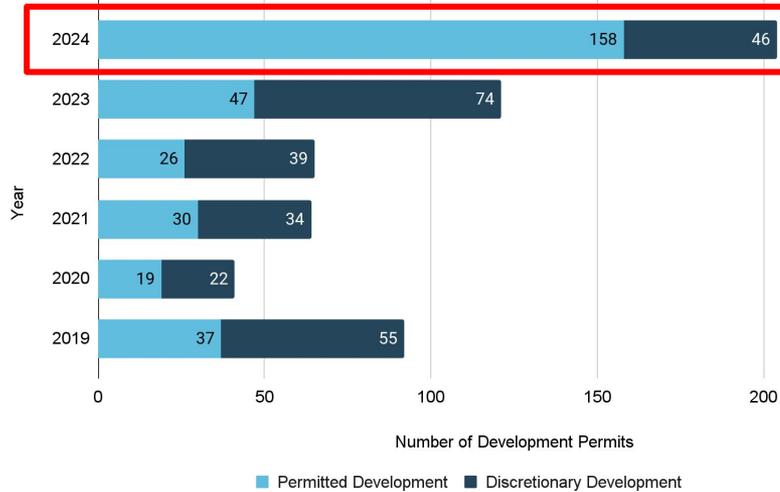
- Location requirements (eg. away from industrial uses)
- Outdoor playspace requirements
- Minimum pick-up and drop-off space requirements

## Child Care Services Regulations in Small-Scale Residential Zones

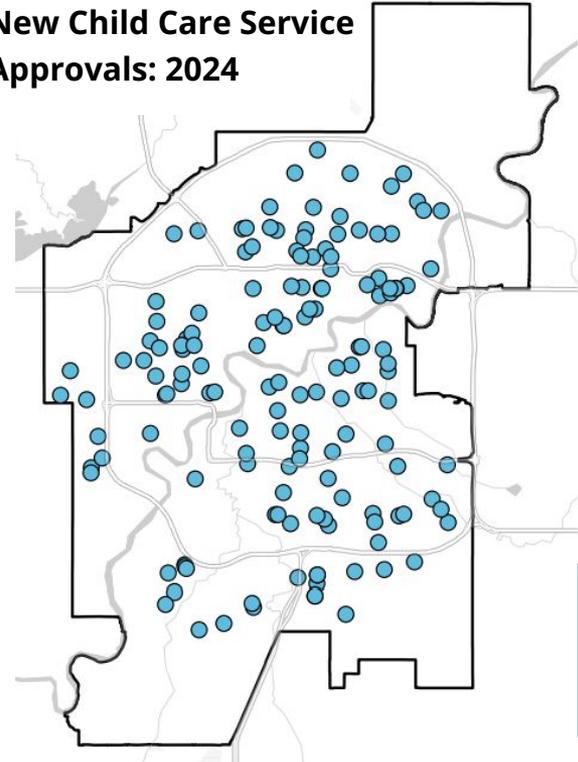
- Maximum floor area of 300 m<sup>2</sup>
- Location requirements (eg. corner sites)

# Data Analysis - More Child Care Everywhere

## City-wide Child Care Services Development Permit Outcomes: 2019 - 2024



## New Child Care Service Approvals: 2024



# Data Analysis - Small Scale Residential Zones

## Child Care Services Development Permit Outcomes in Small Scale Residential Zones: 2019 - 2024

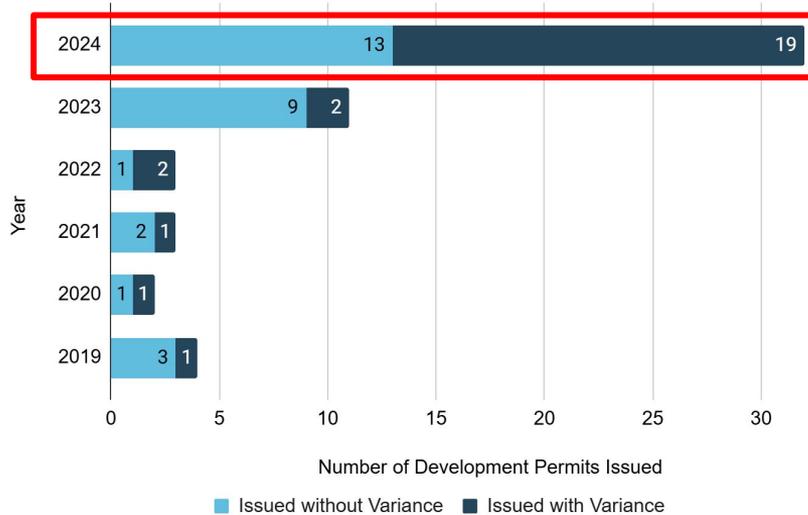


Table 1: Regulations Varied in the Small Scale Residential Zones in 2024

Regulation	Number of Times Varied
Pick up and drop off spaces	10
Parking Area Setback	5
Non-conforming Building	3
Landscape Buffer	2

# Parking and Traffic Study

## Study Parameters

- 10 Child Care Services in the RS and RSF Zones
- Parking and traffic patterns were analysed during peak morning and evening hours

## Conclusions

- Lower demand for pick-up and drop-off spaces
- Underutilization of on-site pick-up and drop-off spaces
- 17% of trips were made by walking or cycling
- Child care facilities generate more peak-hour traffic than small scale residential buildings

## Opportunities for Future Work

1. Explore reducing the minimum pick-up and drop-off requirement for child care services.
2. Change child care services to a permitted use in special area zones, where appropriate.

Conduct further public engagement and return to a future City Council Public Hearing with draft amendments in Q1 2026.

# Questions and Thank You

## Research and Engagement

- Development permit data analysis
- Special Area Zone Review
- Targeted Engagement Findings:
  - Pick-up and drop-off requirements can be challenging to meet.
  - Parking and traffic associated with child care is a concern for some in residential areas.
  - Support for locating child care services close to homes and schools and away from busy streets.

# Data Analysis

## Special Area Zone Review

- 17 special area zones continue to list Child Care Services as a discretionary use:
  - 15 residential zones
  - 2 business industrial zones
- Similar standard zones list Child Care Services as a permitted use.