

## **COUNCIL INNOVATION FUND BIO-ENERGY PILOT PROJECT**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Bio-Energy Pilot Project was approved for Council Innovation Funding of \$170,000 to support Parks Foundation Calgary in the development of a generic process and conceptual plan to restore a large brownfield site to a condition of productive use. Matching funds were secured by Parks Foundation Calgary from a private third party to provide a total project budget of \$340,000. This report provides a presentation on the completed conceptual plan for the selected test case site.

### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION(S)**

Administration recommends that the SPC on Utilities and Corporate Services receive this report for information.

### **PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY**

On 2012 November 19, Council approved the report PFC2012-0787, as amended, to provide funding from The City of Calgary Council Innovation Fund for the Bio-Energy Pilot Project.

On 2013 March 18, Council adopted Alderman Carra's NM2013-11, Amendment to Council Innovation Fund Application RE: Bio-Energy Pilot Project, which directed the Steering Committee for this project to bring a report to the 2013 April 02 Regular Meeting of Priorities and Finance Committee.

On 2013 May 14, Council approved PFC2013-0344 which confirmed the private third party funding and directed that Administration provide a final report by 2013 December.

On 2013 December 10, Council approved the approved a deferral request (PFC2013-0464) of the Council Innovation Fund Bio-Energy Pilot Project report to no later than 2014 January.

On 2014 January 28, Council approved PFC2014-0031, as amended, and directed Administration to return to SPC on Utilities and Corporate Services with a presentation on the completed conceptual plan no later than 2014 May.

### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Calgary and Parks Foundation Calgary have a long-standing partnership in developing projects with mutual benefits. The emergence of new technologies for soil remediation provided an opportunity to explore innovative approaches to developing The City's large brownfield sites with an objective to return them to productive use. An opportunity to demonstrate success on a site within the city has the potential to spur further innovation and applied research.

### **INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS**

A verbal presentation on the completed conceptual plan for the project test case of a portion of Old Refinery Park, will be provided.

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### **Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication**

The Bio-Energy Pilot Project was a collaborative effort between Parks Foundation Calgary, The City, Olds College, and the ward Councillor. The development of any plan to restore a brownfield site to productive use via the generic process from the Bio-Energy Pilot Project will also require the engagement of the owners or land stewards of properties under consideration, potential technology providers, regulators, and the continued engagement of the collaboration participants.

Olds College agreed to participate in the pilot project with input during this planning stage and indicated interest in providing possible research and educational resources in the future if the conceptual plan is implemented.

The pilot project Steering Committee included representation from the Millican Ogden Community Association and the general concept of the pilot project was presented at an association meeting. The Calgary Disc Golf Association was also engaged to understand their current use of the site.

### **Strategic Alignment**

This report supports UEP 2012-2014 Business Plan action 3P4.1 Deliver brownfield redevelopment, Corporate waste management, greenhouse gas and air quality programs that align to environmental goals.

### **Social, Environmental, Economic (External)**

The Bio-Energy Pilot project has the potential to positively impact the environment by developing a *Generic Brownfield Site Planning Process* for restoration of large brownfield sites to productive use. This pilot project also provides a site-specific restoration conceptual plan that can have a positive social impact by providing a site with the potential for multiple uses for the public. This would be done by leveraging private funds, development of a specific plan for the selected site, and ensuring that it would be completed economically.

### **Financial Capacity**

#### **Current and Future Operating Budget:**

Implementing the Bio-Energy Pilot Project was managed within the approved total budget of \$340,000. The City of Calgary Council Innovation Fund provided \$170,000 for the pilot project.

#### **Current and Future Capital Budget:**

The current pilot project plan does not require or anticipate any capital funding on behalf of The City. Any work resulting from the pilot project will be planned and funded as a new project with the appropriate funding partners.

### **Risk Assessment**

Acceptance of the Risk Management Plan (RMP) by Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (AESRD) is a critical aspect of the management of the full site. Approval of any work outside of the scope of the current RMP would follow all regulatory processes.

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**REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):**

On behalf of the Bio-Energy Pilot Project Stakeholder Committee, Environmental and Safety Management (ESM) recommends that this report be received for information as the final deliverable for the project.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

None