

SKATEBOARD AMENITIES STRATEGY UPDATE – DEFERRAL REQUEST

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Request to defer the Skateboard Amenities Strategy Update report. Additional time is required to fully engage key stakeholders and the public in determining skatepark locations and designs for the first phase of the Skateboard Amenities Strategy.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the SPC on Community and Protective Services recommend that Council defer the Skateboard Amenities Strategy Update and report back through the SPC on Community & Protective Services by 2014 June.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

On 2011 December 19, Council approved CPS2011-63 Skateboard Amenities Strategy and directed Administration to prepare a status report regarding the Skateboard Amenities Strategy and to report back to the SPC on Community and Protective Services in 2013 following the Municipal Election.

BACKGROUND

The Skateboard Amenities Strategy (the Strategy) calls for the development of a network of 50 outdoor skateparks in four different typologies (sizes) to be equitably located across the city. The network will include three quadrant/regional skateparks (baseball field size); two community skateparks (outdoor hockey rink size); 15 neighbourhood skateparks (tennis court size); and 30 Skate spots (1/2 basketball court size). Along with skateboarding, these amenities will also be available for use by other wheeled sports such as BMX, inline skating, etc. The network will provide accessibility for a wide variety of users through its strategic locations, activities and affordability.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

Subsequent to the approval of the Strategy in 2011, Administration included Skatepark Planning and Design Development in the 2013-2022 Culture, Parks and Recreation Infrastructure Investment Plan (CPRIP). As well, skatepark development has been identified in development of the regional recreation centres in the northwest and the southeast and New Brighton Athletic Park.

Additionally, Administration has developed the business processes to implement the Strategy. As a result, in 2013 Q1, community associations were invited to express their interest in developing a skatepark in their community by submitting a skatepark proposal to The City. 27 community associations submitted proposals. Administration assessed and identified high priority proposals based on initial community support, location, and access to regional pathway and transit systems. Administration also identified and rated current land inventory appropriate for development.

The Strategy includes a comprehensive skatepark development model that identifies four stages in developing skateparks in Calgary. The stages include the following:

Approval(s): GM (Dalgleish, Stuart) concurs with this report. Author (Won, Stephanie)

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Stage 1: *Site selection*, analyzes proposed sites for appropriateness for development and ensures that stakeholders and the public have input into the selection of sites for development.

Stage 2: *Participatory Design Process* is undertaken after sites have been chosen and includes opportunities for community, stakeholder and public engagement in the design of the skateparks.

Stage 3: *Construction Drawings* and;

Stage 4: *Construction* will be undertaken by Administration with regular communication to the community, stakeholders and the public on the progress of the project.

To confirm appropriate site locations and to ensure skateparks are built in cooperation with the community, the Strategy acknowledges the importance of engagement and communications with the community, stakeholders, the public and other City departments.

In the first quarter of 2013, Administration identified funding of \$4M for the first phase of the 10 year Strategy to build a network of 50 outdoor parks. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued in 2013 April to procure a qualified consultant to support Administration in site selection, participatory design, construction drawings and construction contract administration. Due to Administration's focus on the 2013 June floods, the RFP was not awarded until 2013 October 2. To that end, work towards the development of skatepark sites, as part of the Strategy, is still in its early stages.

A deferral of the Skateboard Amenities Strategy Update report is being requested in order for Administration to undertake its due diligence and conduct appropriate community, stakeholder and public engagement. Administration intends to implement a comprehensive communication and engagement plan which aligns with Policy #CS009 *engage!* Policy for the site selection and participatory design of this project. Initial meetings will be held in the last quarter of 2013 with specific community associations that submitted skatepark proposals to confirm their interest. Administration will incorporate the stakeholder input from these meetings into the broader public engagement planned for the first quarter of 2014. This will ensure that all citizens with interests in the proposed skatepark developments have the opportunity to provide meaningful input into the location and design of the skateparks. Results of the public engagement will be incorporated into the final skatepark development decisions. Stage 1: Site Selection, and Stage 2: Participatory Design Process are anticipated to be completed by early 2014 Q2.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

To date, citizens have not had the opportunity to provide significant input into the location and design of skateparks which is planned for the first phase of the Strategy. During the 2013 Q4 and 2014 Q1 Administration will implement a public engagement plan that will enable a broad range of stakeholders, users and citizens of all ages to provide input into skatepark site selection and participatory design process. The consultant working with Administration is very experienced in community, stakeholder and public engagement in the development of skateparks.

Strategic Alignment

Not applicable.

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Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

Not applicable.

Social

Not applicable.

Environmental

Not applicable.

Economic

Not applicable.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget :

No implications regarding this request to defer.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

No implications regarding this request to defer.

Risk Assessment

No risks associated with this request to defer.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

A deferral of the Skateboard Amenities Strategy Update report is being requested in order for Administration to continue with the skatepark planning and design process and to allow for extensive community, stakeholder and public engagement for the first phase of development of the Strategy.

ATTACHMENT

None