

Silver Springs Community Association- Council Community Fund Application

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Priorities and Finance Committee recommend that Council:

1. Consider this application for the Council Community Fund for the Silver Springs Community Association Facility Addition capital project (Phase 1), in the amount of \$300,000 one-time funding request; and,
2. Direct the Ward 1 Office and the applicant to report back to the Priorities and Finance Committee within 12 months of project completion.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Councillor Sutherland is sponsoring an application to the Council Community Fund (Attachment 2) that will be managed through the Silver Springs Community Association. The funding request for \$300,000 is to support Phase 1 of the Silver Springs Community Association Facility Addition Project.
- The proposed Council Community Fund application (Attachment 3) supports Silver Springs Community Association for an addition to their existing facility to enhance the lifespan and support the increased demand for this community facility.
- **What does this mean to Calgarians?** The facility enhancement will provide more space for programs and services that are currently being offered in alternate locations within the community. Programs offered by the community association could be centralized in one facility; therefore, allowing more space for other organizations to utilize within the community. Expansion of the facility will support increased participation in current and future programs.
- **Why does it matter?** The Silver Springs Community Association facility is currently at capacity, preventing the association from being able to grow with the expanding population and changing needs in the community. The additional space will also provide the opportunity for increased rental revenue, improving the overall sustainability of the community association.
- Strategic Alignment to Council's Citizen Priorities: A city of safe and inspiring neighbourhoods
- Background and Previous Council Direction is included as Attachment 1.

DISCUSSION

\$300,000 from the Council Community Fund will support a two-storey addition to the existing Silver Springs Community Association building, comprised of accessible, outdoor, and indoor recreation space for increased programming and services.

Silver Springs has a long-standing tradition of providing community events, programs, and services for the betterment of community life. Creating more physical space will give residents and community groups better access to the resources they need to contribute meaningfully to their neighbourhood through leadership, health and wellness, and volunteer opportunities. This community facility will be a space where all are welcomed to experience a sense of community that reflects and addresses the diverse needs of residents, at all stages of life.

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Based on its work with the Silver Springs Community Association for the past eight years and their low-risk audit ratings, the Ward 1 Office is confident in the community's ability to deliver this project. The subcommittee is comprised of highly competent, skilled individuals with strong leadership abilities, and has a proven record delivering services in a financially viable fashion.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION (EXTERNAL)

- Public Engagement was undertaken
- Public Communication or Engagement was not required
- Public/Stakeholders were informed
- Stakeholder dialogue/relations were undertaken

The Silver Springs Community Association has worked diligently to research the community's needs and the financial feasibility of the project. The community has been engaged in the process, including an engagement evening in 2019 April to gather additional feedback from residents. All 1700+ Silver Springs Community Association members, facility/program users and residents were invited to participate in and offer feedback throughout the design and engagement phases (Attachment 4). Based on input from this and other engagement efforts, changes have been made to the original design, ensuring the best fit for the community. The addition has been a long-desired amenity in the community, and it has been identified as the most important aspect to enhance the community association. The Silver Springs Community Association website and social media will be used to keep the community informed and engaged throughout the project timeline (Attachment 5).

IMPLICATIONS

Social

Silver Springs Community Association believe the project will further support healthy activities, increase community connections, and improve the overall quality of life in Calgary. Additional space for programs and services will attract not only Silver Springs residents, but also residents from surrounding communities.

Environmental

Silver Springs Community Association is conscious of their environmental impact. Although this project is expanding their facility, Phase 2 will plant trees, landscaping and improve the surrounding areas. This contributes to Urban Forestry's Plan to increase the tree canopy and will contribute to improved air quality, essential habitat and corridors for wildlife movement and reduction of storm water runoff by absorbing and intercepting rainfall.

Economic

An updated facility will attract and maintain businesses in the community, contributing to economic stability and community pride. Increased revenue from user groups will support financial sustainability of the Silver Springs Community Association.

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Service and Financial Implications

Other:

\$300,000

The Silver Springs Community Association has applied for matching grants through both the provincial and federal governments and would like to demonstrate that the project has the support from our municipal government through the Council Community Fund. \$300,000 from the Council Community Fund would support Phase 1 components of demolition, concrete and mechanical work. Sponsorship opportunities will be more lucrative if Silver Springs Community Association has support from the various levels of government.

There are two Council Community Fund applications under consideration with requests exceeding the \$585,000 available in the fund; therefore, both projects cannot be fully funded.

RISK

If \$300,000 is approved, there is the risk of depleting the Council Community Fund which is currently at \$585,000; therefore, limiting funding opportunities for other communities.

The Silver Springs Community Association has invested reserve funds into the project for pre-planning, permits, architectural designs and drawings. If this application is unsuccessful, Silver Springs Community Association will have insufficient funds to match other government and private grants. If the project is delayed due to lack of funding, government funding may need to be returned, timelines would be revised, and the Silver Springs Community Association would seek out alternate funding sources.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Background, Previous Council Direction
2. Council Community Fund Terms of Reference
3. Silver Springs Community Association Council Community Fund Application
4. Silver Springs Community Centre Addition
5. Project Overview and Budget

Department Circulation

General Manager/Director	Department	Approve/Consult/Inform
Carla Male	CFOD	Inform