

BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Administration is seeking approval of funds from the Brentwood Community Enhancement Fund to begin public engagement, detailed design, and partial construction of improvements to Blakiston Park.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the SPC on Planning and Urban Development recommends that Council:

- 1) Endorse the recommendation of the Brentwood Community Enhancement Fund (BCEF) Committee to commit \$375,000 from the BCEF capital deposit to contribute to the costs of the public engagement and detailed design of Blakiston Park improvement project in 2014; and
- 2) Endorse the recommendation of the Brentwood Community Enhancement Fund (BCEF) Committee to commit, for the purpose of park construction, a contribution of an additional \$575,000.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPC ON PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DATED 2014 MAY 07:

That the Administration Recommendations contained in Report PUD2014-0346 be approved.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

At the 2013 July 29 meeting, Council approved Administration's recommendation in C2013-0589 Brentwood Community Enhancement Fund to approve the Terms of Reference for the Brentwood Community Enhancement Fund.

At the 2009 November 30 meeting, Council adopted by bylaw the Brentwood Station Area Redevelopment Plan (E2009-19), which included provisions for density bonusing through contributions to the BCEF.

BACKGROUND

During the development of the Brentwood Station Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP), stakeholders identified a number of opportunities for local amenity improvements. The most important of these improvements is the redesign of Blakiston Park, which is the largest amenity space within the Transit Oriented Development area. Following Council's approval of the ARP, consultants and Administration completed a high-level redesign for Blakiston Park. The results of that exercise were recorded in the Blakiston Park Community Redesign Charette document.

Since approval of the ARP, two development applications have been approved and the projects are now under construction. Each development application contributed to the BCEF to acquire additional density. In total the BCEF now has a balance of \$981,109.

Administration is now prepared to begin the next phase for improvements to Blakiston Park through a portion of the funds acquired to date.

BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

Administration submitted an application to the BCEF Committee on 2014 April 02 requesting their approval to provide \$375,000 of BCEF funds in 2014 to support the public engagement and detailed design of the park. The committee also approved an additional \$575,000 for future construction of the park design. The minutes from this meeting are provided in the Attachment. The BCEF Committee voted to approve this funding request and forward the funding request to Council for endorsement.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

Key stakeholders attended the BCEF Committee meeting, including a local developer, community association representative, Ward councillor, and City staff in accordance with the membership requirements set in the BCEF Terms of Reference.

Strategic Alignment

The improvement of Blakiston Park and use of contribution funds align with The City's various policies and plans to support intensification in Calgary's established communities through improvement of local infrastructure and amenities.

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

Social

Funding the improvements to Blakiston Park will create more opportunity for use and community gathering in this important amenity space.

Environmental

Funding the improvements to Blakiston Park will help improve the park and offer opportunities for the community to learn about the parks space and its function in the local ecosystem.

Economic (External)

Funding the improvements to Blakiston Park will improve the quality of local amenities in the community and may support local economic activity.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

Regular park maintenance to address cleanliness and vandalism will be provided by Administration through day-to-day operational activities.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

A total of \$950,000 was approved by the BCEF Committee:

- \$375,000 for public engagement and detailed design; and
- an additional \$575,000 for future construction.

Funds will be transferred to the Parks business unit towards funding for their related Capital Budget.

BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND

Additional funding may be requested through Culture Parks and Recreation Infrastructure Investment Plan (CRIIP), subject to Council approval. As the park will be developed over time, CRIIP is a potential funding source for future phases.

Risk Assessment

There are no significant risks associated with this request for funding endorsement by Council.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

Funding for improvements to Blakiston Park through the BCEF is required to begin public engagement and detailed design of the park. \$375,000 is required for public engagement and detailed design. An additional \$575,000 for future construction. Council's timely approval of this recommendation will ensure that improvements can be made for existing and future residents of the community.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Brentwood Community Enhancement Fund Meeting Minutes