

## **DISBANDING THE PRINCE'S ISLAND PARK MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In 1999, the Prince's Island Park Management Advisory Committee (PIPMAC) was established as a committee of Council. The purpose of PIPMAC was to provide input into the Greater Prince's Island Park Master Plan process and make recommendations around redevelopment issues including park usage patterns, maintenance, noise, parking, commercial uses and community relations. Administration has engaged with current members, reviewed the PIPMAC Terms of Reference and meeting minutes, and noted other processes that are in place to ensure committee members are informed on projects that may impact Prince's Island Park (PIP). As the role and participation of PIPMAC members has waned and the management practices for Prince's Island Park have reached a level of maturity and stability, it is proposed that PIPMAC be disbanded as a formal committee of Council.

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

That the SPC on Community and Protective Services recommend that Council disband the Prince's Island Park Management Advisory Committee.

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

At the 2016 April 25 Regular Meeting of Council, Council rescinded the Council policy on *Appointment of Members of Council, Administration and Citizens to Agencies and Establishment of Council Agencies (CC003)*, and adopted a Council policy on *Governance and Appointments of Boards, Commissions and Committees (CP2016-03)*. The new Council policy provides guidelines respecting the establishment, mandate, disbandment of City BCCs, as well as processes for the appointment of Council, Administration and Public Members.

At the 2015 October 19 Organizational Meeting of Council, Council received report N2015-0600 and recommended that the current membership of the Prince's Island Park Management Advisory Committee be extended until 2015 December 31; and directed Administration to engage with stakeholders in PIPMAC with respect to its membership and Terms of Reference.

At the 2014 October 20 Organizational Meeting of Council, Council confirmed the appointment of members to PIPMAC for terms expiring at the Organizational Meeting of Council in 2015 or 2017.

On 1978 May 24, The City of Calgary Council adopted a Council Policy on the *Appointment of Members of Council, Administration and Citizens to Agencies and Establishment of Council Agencies (CC2003)*. This Council Policy establishes the process for the appointment of Members of Council, Administration and Citizens to Boards, Commissions and Committees. In accordance with this Council Policy, every appointment to a Board, Commission and Committee is at the pleasure of Council and the revocation of an appointment shall be by resolution of Council.

### **BACKGROUND**

In 1999, the Prince's Island Park Management Advisory Committee (PIPMAC) was established as a committee of Council. The Vision Statement of PIPMAC is:

*"The people of Calgary envision the Greater Prince's Island Park area as an area where they can gather to play, quietly connect with nature, attend special events, mingle with diverse*

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*cultural communities and experience the excitement and activity characteristic of a vibrant city and its downtown.*" The purpose of PIPMAC was to provide input into the Greater Prince's Island Park Master Plan process and make recommendations around redevelopment issues including park usage patterns, maintenance, noise, parking, commercial uses and community relations. There are 15 committee members representing adjacent communities, festival and event stakeholders, and Calgary Parks and Calgary Recreation staff. During the park master planning process, PIPMAC gathered public input and provided data to create recommendations and park guidelines. These guidelines are reflected in the current Prince's Island Park Master Plan.

At the 2015 October 19 Organizational Meeting of Council, report N2015-0600 came forward for information and noted that PIPMAC did not provide the City Clerk's office with a list of representatives for 2015/2016 term (as required by clause 3.2b in the Terms of Reference). With 11 of the 12 voting positions expiring at the 2015 Organizational Meeting of Council, quorum for a PIPMAC meeting (six members) could not be achieved and therefore the business of PIPMAC could not be conducted. Current membership was extended until 2015 December 31 and Administration was directed to engage with PIPMAC stakeholders and determine appropriate next steps for the Committee.

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

Administration has engaged with members, reviewed the current PIPMAC Terms of Reference, PIPMAC meeting minutes and activity in recent years, and considered other initiatives that are in place to ensure appropriate use of Prince's Island Park (PIP) and future engagement of stakeholders. Through this analysis, Administration determined that the role and participation of PIPMAC members has evolved and the management practices for Prince's Island Park have reached a level of maturity and stability. The following is a summary of the factors that support Administration's recommendation to disband PIPMAC as a formal committee of Council:

- The Prince's Island Park Master Plan guidelines are in place and working effectively.
- The Prince's Island Park Management Plan was completed in 1999 and provides operational guidelines for the park. These guidelines cover many of the same issues as contained in the current PIPMAC Terms of Reference, including park usage levels, event planning, maintenance, sound, parking, commercial use, asset management (for both natural and built assets), and park improvements.
- The City's Interdepartmental Events Team (IET) was established in 2010 to formally manage events that involve two or more City business units. IET reviews proposals for major events on Prince's Island Park.
- A greenspace booking process is in place for smaller events proposed in Prince's Island Park.
- There are clearly defined opportunities for the public to engage on projects that may impact the park such as the Green Line and West Eau Claire redevelopment.

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- Calgary Parks and Calgary Recreation staff have established lines of communication with committee members to ensure questions and concerns are responded to in a timely and efficient manner.
- PIPMAC Committee is required to meet two times per year. Administration has reviewed PIPMAC meeting minutes and determined that the last meeting where quorum was met was held on 2014 March 26.
- The last Annual Summary statement of activities prepared by PIPMAC was in 2014.

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

Administration worked with committee members to gather and review past meeting minutes. A letter to current committee members from Calgary Parks was sent 2016 July 14 (Attachment 1). The letter thanked members for their commitment to PIPMAC and outlined the process and reasons for the committee dissolution. A letter of support for committee dissolution was received from past chair (Attachment 2). Calgary Parks also consulted with Calgary Recreation, City Clerks, and Calgary Transit on the dissolution process and to ensure future engagement opportunities are available to members on projects such as the Green Line.

### **Strategic Alignment**

The report and recommendations align with the following Council priorities:

- A well-run city (W5: Regularly collaborate and engage citizens to encourage participation in City decision-making, and better communicate the reasons for the decisions)
- A healthy and green city (H9: Optimize the existing parks network to ensure Calgarians have access to nature and healthy and active lifestyles)
- Great neighbourhoods (N9: Provide great public spaces and public realm improvements across the city to foster opportunity for well used public spaces and places for citizen connections and urban vitality).

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

#### **Social**

Prince's Island Park is a central place that attracts visitors and Calgarians to recreate, attend festivals and special events, experience nature and mingle with diverse cultural communities. The park functions as an event venue and as a place of passive recreation within a diverse natural system.

#### **Environmental**

Public use and event planning on Prince's Island Park must be balanced with the environmental capacity of both the formal open space areas and the natural riverbank areas on the island. The Prince's Island Park Management Plan outlines key principles and strategies for asset protection and enhancement in the park.

#### **Economic (External)**

High quality park space favourably impacts both the park's image and property values within Calgary and provides an attraction for citizens and visitors to The City. Festivals and special events hosted in Prince's Island Park positively impact the local economy.

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**Financial Capacity**

**Current and Future Operating Budget:**

There are no impacts on current and future operating budgets.

**Current and Future Capital Budget:**

There are no impacts on current and future capital budgets.

**Risk Assessment**

Calgary Parks is aware that some members of PIPMAC will wish to actively participate in Green Line discussions and engagement. The Green Line team has indicated that robust stakeholder engagement opportunities will be available directly through their process.

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

Administration has engaged with current members, reviewed the PIPMAC Terms of Reference and meeting minutes, and noted other processes that are in place to ensure committee members are engaged on projects that may impact Prince's Island Park (PIP). Dissolution of PIPMAC as a formal committee of Council is recommended because the role and participation of PIPMAC members has evolved and the management practices for Prince's Island Park have reached a level of maturity and stability.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

1. Calgary Parks Letter to PIPMAC members
2. Letter of Support for Dissolution from Past Committee Chair