



PUBLIC AGENDA - SPECIAL MEETING MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 12:00 p.m.
Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall
Members:

Councillor Mairin Loewen
Naveed Anwar (Public)
Diane Bentley (Public)
Donna Fracchia (Public)
Kent Gauthier (Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools)
Stan Laba (Saskatoon Public Schools)
Robin Mowat (Public)
Chelsea Parent (Public)
Keira Sawatzky (Public)
Greg White (Public)

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair [File No. CK 715-16]

The Commission is requested to appoint a Chair and Vice Chair for 2020.

Robin Mowat was Chair and former member Maggie Schwab was Vice Chair for 2019.

Recommendation

That the Municipal Planning Commission appoint a Chair and Vice Chair for 2020.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Recommendation

That the agenda be approved as presented.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

Recommendation

That the reports contained in Items 4.1 and 4.2 be received as information.

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| 4.1 | Official Community Plan Redesign – The Environment [File No. CK 4350-69 and PL 4115-2] | 3 - 13 |
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A report of the General Manager, Community Services Department is provided.

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| 4.2 | Official Community Plan Redesign – Quality of Life Review [File No. CK 4350-69 and PL 4115-2] | 14 - 25 |
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A report of the General Manager, Community Services Department is provided.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Official Community Plan Redesign – The Environment

ISSUE

As part of the Official Community Plan Redesign project, a draft of a new Official Community Plan (OCP) has been developed. This report provides an overview of content expected to be included in The Environment section of the proposed OCP.

BACKGROUND

The OCP is a statutory plan created under the authority of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, that provides a comprehensive policy framework to shape the long-term growth and development of Saskatoon. Its purpose is to guide the physical, environmental, economic, social and cultural development of the community through a broad set of goals, objectives and policies. These policies provide a framework for decision-making that guides future development and redevelopment in Saskatoon and helps to achieve the community that residents collectively desire and envision.

Since the last major update of the OCP, a number of initiatives have helped shape a new direction for the City of Saskatoon (City), including: Saskatoon Speaks Community Visioning process; the Plan for Growth and associated initiatives; and adoption of the Strategic Plan and its subsequent update. Consolidating these changes into the OCP ensures a consistent direction for development in the city and provides residents, City Council and Administration a clearly defined vision for the city's future, supported by the policies necessary to achieve that vision.

CURRENT STATUS

Long Range Planning has led the Official Community Plan Redesign project. The intent of the project is to update the OCP to appropriately reflect the current vision for Saskatoon, based on current management documents and endorsed initiatives. The result includes a reorganization of the layout of the OCP to align it with the Strategic Plan, including making use of the Strategic Goals as titles for individual sections of the document.

Each section is being drafted based on an extensive review of City of Saskatoon management documents and endorsed initiatives, as well as internal engagement with relevant City staff to confirm direction. Internal engagement occurred throughout 2017, 2018 and 2019 and included meetings with representatives from 29 of the 34 City divisions. The resulting updates to the OCP will reflect this engagement, as well as the engagement that informed each guiding document or direction.

A comprehensive review and approval strategy has been developed to ensure all appropriate committees have the opportunity to consider the proposed sections of the OCP. Before the full document is presented for approval at a public hearing, an overview of each section of the proposed OCP will be shared with the Municipal Planning Commission. An overview of relevant content will be provided to each of the

Official Community Plan Redesign – The Environment

City's six advisory committees, as well as to City Council through its Standing Policy Committees.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

This report provides an overview of the fifth section of the draft OCP, Section E – The Environment. General details on this section are included below, with additional information provided in Appendix 1 – Proposed Content.

This section provides direction for how the City will commit to protecting, enhancing and managing the impact on the environment. This includes the overall protection of the environment; conservation and management of natural systems; production and conservation of energy; the management of waste; mitigation of and adaptation to climate change and community involvement and programming.

It includes new policies relating to:

1. Protection and stewardship of the environment (water, air, land);
2. Integration of natural systems into urban areas and natural asset management;
3. Efficient use and production of energy, and energy sustainable buildings;
4. Reduction, recycling, diversion of waste, and management of the landfill;
5. Climate change mitigation and adaptation; and
6. Shared community stewardship and programming.

It includes updates to wording from the following sections of the [current OCP](#):

- 9.0 – Environmental Management;
- 10.2 – Parks and Recreation Open Space, specifically on storm water management; and
- 16.5 – Riverbank Areas Susceptible to Slumping and Slope Instability

New and updated content is informed by:

- [C02-036 - Environmental Policy](#)
- [C08-001 Triple Bottom Line Policy](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Energy & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan](#)
- [City of Saskatoon Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021](#)
- [Saskatoon Speaks - Community Vision \(June 2011\)](#)
- [Saskatoon Waste & Recycling Plan](#)
- [Bylaw No. 8310 - The Waste Bylaw, 2004](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#)
- [Green Infrastructure Strategy - Baseline Inventory Report](#)

Official Community Plan Redesign – The Environment

- [City of Saskatoon - Storm Water Pond Utility Business Plan](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Storm Water Pond Safety Review](#)
- [South Saskatchewan River Watershed - Source Water Protection Plan](#)
- [Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth Regional Plan](#)
- [Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy \(Item 8.4.2\)](#)
- [The Low Emissions Community Plan](#)

Policies in Section E provide overall direction for how the City makes decisions relating to the environment. For implementation of these policies, they should be considered in the context of the full OCP document and decisions should be assessed against all the policies contained within it. However, it is important to note that the themes of sustainability and the environment are entrenched throughout the OCP.

NEXT STEPS

Reports providing an overview of the remaining sections of the proposed OCP will be provided to the Municipal Planning Commission for review. As they are reviewed, updates to the draft OCP will be made as needed, based on discussions at the Municipal Planning Commission and the Advisory Committees. Once every section has been reviewed, discussions and direction from the Municipal Planning Commission and Advisory Committees will be summarized in a final report to the Municipal Planning Commission. This report will provide an overview of the proposed OCP document and will include a recommendation that the report be forwarded to City Council recommending, at the time of a public hearing, City Council consider the Administration's recommendations that the proposed OCP Bylaw be approved.

APPENDICES

1. Proposed Content of Section E – The Environment

REPORT APPROVAL

Written by:	Ashley Kostyniuk, Planner, Long Range Planning
Reviewed by:	Tyson McShane, Manager of Long Range Planning
	Jeanna South, Director of Sustainability
	Lesley Anderson, Director of Planning and Development
Approved by:	Lynne Lacroix, General Manager, Community Services Department

SP/2020/PD/MPC – OCP Redesign – Environment/pg

Proposed Content of Section E – The Environment

This Section provides direction for how the City of Saskatoon (City) will commit to protecting, enhancing, and managing the impact on the environment. This includes the overall protection of the environment; conservation and management of natural systems; production and conservation of energy; the management of waste; mitigation of and adaptation to climate change and community involvement and programming. The section is proposed to include the following subsections:

1. Environmental Protection
2. Natural Systems
3. Energy
4. Waste Management
5. Climate
6. Community Leadership

Details on each subsection and the source of its content is included below.

E1 – Environmental Protection

This section includes policies relating to the protection of the environment through responsible practice to alleviate impacts on the local and global environment. Sub-headings include:

1. Environmental Stewardship
2. Water
3. Air
4. Land

The City engages in environmental protection through responsible practices to alleviate impacts on the local and global environment. Responsible environmental practices include conservation and enhancement of natural assets and preventing wasteful use of resources. Maintaining the integrity of land, air and water resources in the city and the region contributes to a healthy environment, as well as social and economic wellbeing.

This section includes new policies informed by the following documents:

- [C02-036 - Environmental Policy](#)
- [Saskatoon Speaks - Community Vision \(June 2011\)](#)
- [City of Saskatoon Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Energy & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan](#)
- [Green Infrastructure Strategy - Baseline Inventory Report](#)
- [Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth Regional Plan](#)

- [South Saskatchewan River Watershed - Source Water Protection Plan](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Storm Water Pond Safety Review](#)

Topics that policies address are listed below under their respective proposed sub-heading:

Environmental Stewardship

- Environmental stewardship and protection through the use of innovative technologies, green infrastructure, pilot projects, and best practices in civic operations; and
- Supporting a local culture of improved environmental protection.

Water

- A protected and sustainable drinking water supply, and the management of storm water;
- Reducing consumption of water through efficient land use planning and landscaping practices; and
- The policies included from Section 9.4 – Source Water Protection of the [current OCP](#) are maintained and updated. These policies outline the City's commitment to the protection of groundwater sources and drinking water supply.

Air

- Reducing local air pollution through responsible practices and work with government agencies to monitor regional air shed quality.

Land

- Transforming contaminated lands through the facilitation of brownfield redevelopment; and
- Reducing the use of pesticides and chemicals, as well as facilitating responsible practices to reduce the risk of new, or the spread of existing, soil contamination.

E2 – Natural Systems

This section include policies relating to the natural areas and systems within Saskatoon. Sub-headings include:

1. Integration with the Urban Environment
2. Natural Asset Management
3. Integrated Storm Water Management
4. Wetlands and Conservation Management
5. Conservation of Natural Areas
6. Riverbank Stewardship

7. Urban Forestry

Natural areas within Saskatoon play an important role in overall well-being and environmental health. Natural areas not only support a diversity of plants and wildlife, they also perform ecological services, such as reducing and filtering storm water, sequestering greenhouse gases, reducing urban heat island and wind speed effects and removing harmful pollutants from the air, soil and water. Retention of natural areas is an important asset to the city as it ensures both environmental protection and enjoyment of nature in the urban environment.

This section includes new policies informed by the following documents:

- [C02-036 - Environmental Policy](#)
- [City of Saskatoon Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021](#)
- [Green Infrastructure Strategy - Baseline Inventory Report](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Storm Water Pond Utility Business Plan](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Storm Water Pond Safety Review](#)
- [Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth Regional Plan](#)

Topics that policies address are listed below under their respective proposed sub-heading:

Integration with the Urban Environment

- Integration of ecological systems and natural areas into urban areas and providing access to green spaces and the larger connected green network;
- Limiting impacts of urban development on natural areas and sensitive ecosystems; and
- Opportunities for incorporating green infrastructure into the land development process.

Natural Asset Management

- Managing built and natural assets through an asset management policy, along with a system of natural capital asset valuation; and
- Adaptation to climate change through the use of green infrastructure in the city.

Integrated Storm Water Management

- Safe development of storm water retention ponds; and
- Policies included from Section 10.2 – Recreation and Open Space of the [current OCP](#), specifically on storm water management, are maintained and updated. These policies outline best practices for safely managing storm water as a resource.

Wetlands and Conservation Management

- Policies included from Section 9.5 – Wetlands and Conservation Management of the [current OCP](#) are maintained and updated. These policies outline the City's commitment to the stewardship, conservation and integration into urban areas, of wetland resources.

Conservation of Natural Areas

- Conserving and protecting natural features;
- Maintaining of an inventory of natural areas and assets; and
- Policies included from 9.2 – Conservation of Natural Areas and Archaeological Sites of the [current OCP](#) are updated. These policies guide the protection, enhancement and conservation of important natural areas in the city and region.

Riverbank Stewardship

- Policies included from 16.5 Riverbank Areas Susceptible to Slumping and Slope Instability of the [current OCP](#) are maintained. These policies:
 - Protect and conserve the South Saskatchewan River Valley, through partnerships with the Provincial Government, Meewasin and University of Saskatchewan for the enjoyment of residents now and into the future;
 - Monitor areas of the riverbank prone to slumping or instability; and
 - Establish a riverbank slope overlay district in the Zoning Bylaw.
- Policies included from 9.1 – Riverbank Stewardship of the [current OCP](#) are maintained and updated. These policies guide the protection of the South Saskatchewan River Valley.

Urban Forestry

- Policies included from 9.3 – Urban Forestry of the [current OCP](#) are maintained and updated. These policies outline the protection and maintenance of existing trees in the city, and expanding the urban forest as Saskatoon grows.

E3 – Energy

This section is a new addition to the OCP and includes policies relating to the production and consumption of energy. Sub-headings include:

1. Energy Conservation and Efficiency
2. Renewable Energy
3. Sustainable Buildings

The City seeks to become a leader in renewable energy, energy and water conservation and management of greenhouse gas emissions. The City is actively trying to meet emission reduction targets, reduce reliance on high carbon energy sources and energy consumption and support energy efficient buildings and transportation modes. The

benefits include saving money on utility costs, deferring costs for major capital expenditures, reducing overall operating costs, reducing air pollutants linked to emissions and reducing the severity of projected climate change.

This section includes new policies informed by the following documents:

- [Saskatoon Speaks - Community Vision \(June 2011\)](#)
- [City of Saskatoon Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Energy & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan](#)
- [C02-036 - Environmental Policy](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#)

Topics that new policies address are listed below under their respective proposed sub-heading:

Energy Conservation and Efficiency

- Reducing energy consumption through public education programs and innovation in energy use; and
- Energy and fuel efficiency improvement for all modes of transportation and transportation technologies.

Renewable Energy

- Increasing the use of innovative and renewable sources in the generation of energy.

Sustainable Buildings

- Reducing the environmental impacts of civic buildings; and
- Encouraging energy efficiency and sustainable building techniques in the construction of new buildings and existing building retrofits.

E4 – Waste Management

This section is a new addition to the OCP and includes policies relating to the management of waste in Saskatoon. Sub-headings include:

1. Reduction
2. Recycling and Diversion
3. Residual Waste

The City has committed to achieving a 70% waste diversion target with a long-term vision of zero waste goals. To realize these initiatives, the City takes an integrated approach to waste management by combining waste handling and waste reduction strategies. An effective integrated system considers how to reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and dispose of waste in ways that protect both human and environmental

health, while remaining affordable and convenient and maximizing resource use efficiency. A variety of programs and initiatives, including recycling, composting, hazardous waste collection and reuse of gently used items help divert waste from the Saskatoon landfill. Outreach, education and services support these programs, while raising awareness about the importance of waste reduction and diversion.

This section includes new policies informed by the following documents:

- [Saskatoon Speaks - Community Vision \(June 2011\)](#)
- [City of Saskatoon Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021](#)
- [Saskatoon Waste & Recycling Plan](#)
- [C02-036 - Environmental Policy](#)
- [Bylaw No. 8310 - The Waste Bylaw, 2004](#)

Topics that new policies address are listed below under their respective proposed sub-heading:

Reduction

- Reduce waste generated in Saskatoon through implementing and maintaining a waste reduction and diversion plan; and
- Working with government, regional, and community partners to improve waste prevention, reduction, reuse and production to meet zero waste goals.

Recycling and Diversion

- Develop policies and programs on new waste diversion initiatives, like recycling and organics management, for all civic facilities, as well as exploring alternatives and improvements to service levels, collection and processing; and
- City-wide recycling and organics management initiatives through policy, collection and education.

Residual Waste

- Managing the landfill to minimize impacts to the environment and keep hazardous waste from entering the waste stream; and
- Optimized and financially sustainable landfill operations.

E5 – Climate

This section is a new addition to the OCP and includes policies relating to changing climate conditions and becoming a more resilient city. Sub-headings include:

1. Mitigation
2. Adaptation

Everyone has a role to play in taking action on climate change, as it is a global, national and local challenge. Both climate mitigation and adaptation are needed to effectively address both the causes and effects of climate change. Taking action will support environmental health and integrity, social equity and cultural well-being and economic prosperity and fiscal responsibility. The City has made a commitment to reducing greenhouse gases and adapting to changing climate conditions to become a more resilient city. Part of this commitment includes implementing the solutions and opportunities identified in Saskatoon's climate action planning, which addresses energy efficiency and generation, land use planning, urban design, transportation, waste management, asset management, air quality, water services and other areas.

This section includes new policies informed by the following documents:

- [City of Saskatoon Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021](#)
- [Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy \(Item 8.4.2\)](#)
- [Green Infrastructure Strategy - Baseline Inventory Report](#)
- [C02-036 - Environmental Policy](#)
- [Saskatoon Speaks - Community Vision \(June 2011\)](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Energy & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan](#)

Topics that new policies address are listed below under their respective proposed sub-heading:

Mitigation

- Implementing and maintaining a climate action plan to reduce corporate and community emissions; and
- Maintaining and monitoring of corporate and community emission reduction targets and performance.

Adaptation

- Use of the corporate climate adaptation strategy to assess change risk to municipal infrastructure, services, and plans; and
- Assessing and reporting on current and projected future climate conditions in the Saskatoon region to increase community and corporate resilience.

E6 – Community Leadership

This section is a new addition to the OCP and includes policies relating to community involvement and programming. Sub-headings include:

1. Shared Stewardship
2. Community Programs

The City is committed to sustainable decision making, which means supporting the needs and well-being of both present and future generations by upholding

environmental integrity, equitable social systems, a just economy and good governance. However, the City cannot meet its environmental goals alone. The involvement and effort of the entire community is required, including other orders of government, schools, business, community groups and individuals. Through public engagement, outreach, education initiatives and program development, the City will create partnerships within the community to foster an informed, engaged community and reach our goals. The City strives to build capacity in the community and encourage behaviours that reduce environmental impacts.

This section includes new policies informed by the following documents:

- [Saskatoon Speaks - Community Vision \(June 2011\)](#)
- [C02-036 - Environmental Policy](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Energy & Greenhouse Gas Management Plan](#)

Topics that new policies address are listed below under their respective proposed sub-heading:

Shared Stewardship

- Leading by example through implementing best practices in municipal operations and providing engagement outreach and education on City-led projects; and
- Encouraging community action through building meaningful relationships and raising awareness about sustainability and environmental programs and initiatives.

Community Programs

- Facilitating community involvement through implementing actions and programming to support environment initiatives.

Official Community Plan Redesign – Quality of Life Review

ISSUE

A draft of a new Official Community Plan (OCP) is being developed as part of the Official Community Plan Redesign project. This report provides an overview of content expected to be included in the Quality of Life section of the proposed Official Community Plan.

BACKGROUND

The OCP is a statutory plan created under the authority of the *Planning and Development Act, 2007*, that provides a comprehensive policy framework to shape long-term growth and development of Saskatoon. Its purpose is to guide the physical, environmental, economic, social and cultural development of the community through a broad set of goals, objectives and policies. These policies provide a framework for decision-making that guides future development and redevelopment in Saskatoon and helps to achieve the community that Saskatoon residents desire and envision.

Since the last major update of the OCP in 2009, a number of initiatives have helped shape a new direction for the City of Saskatoon (City), including: the *Saskatoon Speaks* Community Visioning process; Plan for Growth and associated initiatives; and adoption of the Strategic Plan and its subsequent update. Consolidating these changes into the OCP ensures a consistent direction for development in the city and provides residents, City Council and the Administration a clearly defined vision for the city's future, supported by the policies necessary to achieve that vision.

CURRENT STATUS

Long Range Planning has led the Official Community Plan Redesign project. The intent is to update the OCP to reflect the current vision for Saskatoon, based on current management documents and endorsed initiatives. It includes a reorganization of the OCP layout to align it with the Strategic Plan, including making use of the Strategic Goals as titles for individual sections of the document.

Drafts of each section have been completed, based on an extensive review of City of Saskatoon management documents and endorsed initiatives, as well as internal engagement with relevant City staff to confirm direction. Internal engagement occurred throughout 2017, 2018 and 2019 and included meetings with representatives from 29 of the 34 City divisions. Resulting updates to the OCP will reflect this engagement, as well as the engagement that informed each guiding document or direction.

A comprehensive review and approval strategy has been developed to ensure all appropriate committees have the opportunity to consider the proposed sections of the OCP. Before the full document is presented for approval at a public hearing, an overview of each section of the proposed OCP will be shared with the Municipal Planning Commission. An overview of relevant content will be provided to each of the City's six advisory committees, as well as to City Council through its Standing Policy Committees.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

This report provides an overview of the fourth section of the draft OCP, Section D - Quality of Life. General details on this section are included below, with additional information provided in Appendix 1 – Proposed Content. This Section provides direction on how:

- the City may address the cultural and social identity and the development of the community;
- art, culture and health and safety may be supported or built into the community;
- heritage should be conserved and a sense of place be instilled; and
- community facilities and the city's open spaces such as parks and natural areas may be developed and offer community assets for people.

It includes policies relating to:

- health and safety;
- social development;
- arts and culture;
- heritage conservation;
- parks and recreation open space;
- community facilities; and
- placemaking.

It includes updates to wording from the following sections of the [current OCP](#):

- 3.1 Safe Growth;
- 10.0 Parks and Recreation Open Space;
- 11.0 Community Services and Facilities;
- 14.0 Urban Design and Design Review;
- 15.0 Heritage; and
- 17.0 Social Development

New and updated content is informed by:

- [City of Saskatoon - Recreation and Parks Master Plan](#)
- [Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth Regional Plan](#)
- [Service Level for Park Maintenance and Design](#)

- [C10-024 - Recreational Use of Storm Water Ponds Policy](#)
- [Growth Plan to Half a Million - Active Transportation Plan Final Report](#)
- [Winter City Strategy Development Framework](#)
- [City of Saskatoon Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021](#)
- [City of Saskatoon – City Centre Plan - Public Spaces, Activity and Urban Form Strategic Framework](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Culture Plan Implementation Refresh \(2018-2022\)](#)
- [Saskatoon Speaks - Community Vision \(June 2011\)](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - City Centre Plan](#)
- [C10-020 - Civic Heritage Policy](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Culture Plan](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Heritage Plan](#)
- [ayisiyiniwak: A Communications Guide](#)
- [C10-025 - Public Art Policy](#)
- [C10-023 - Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Policy](#)
- [Saskatoon Council on Aging - Age-Friendly Saskatoon Initiative](#)
- [A10-017 – Park Development Guidelines](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Housing Business Plan \(2013-2022\)](#)
- [C09-002 - Innovative Housing Incentives Policy](#)
- [Growth Plan to Half a Million - Growth Plan Technical Report \(February 2016\)](#)
- [No. 9455 - Building Bylaw, 2017](#)
- [No. 7269 - Emergency Planning Bylaw, 1992](#)
- [No. 7990 - Fire and Protective Services Bylaw, 2001](#)

The policies in this section provide overall direction for how the City makes decisions relating to quality of life. Implementation of these policies should be considered in the context of the full OCP document and decisions should be assessed against all the policies contained within it.

NEXT STEPS

Reports providing an overview of the remaining sections of the proposed OCP will be provided to Municipal Planning Commission for review. As they are reviewed, updates to the draft OCP will be made as needed, based on discussions at the Municipal Planning Commission and the Advisory Committees. Once every section has been reviewed, discussions and direction from the Municipal Planning Commission and the

Advisory Committees will be summarized in a report to the Municipal Planning Commission. This report will provide an overview of the proposed OCP document and will include a recommendation that the report be forwarded to City Council recommending that, at the time of a public hearing, City Council consider the Administration's recommendations that the proposed OCP Bylaw be approved.

APPENDICES

1. Proposed Content of Section D - Quality of Life

REPORT APPROVAL

Written by: Tyson McShane, Acting Manager of Long Range Planning
Reviewed by: Paul Whitenect, Acting Director of Planning and Development
Darren Crilly, Director of Parks
Andrew Roberts, Director of Recreation and Community Development
Gilles Dorval, Director of Indigenous Initiatives
Approved by: Lynne Lacroix, General Manager, Community Services Department

SP/2020/PL/MPC/Official Community Plan Redesign – Quality of Life Review/gs

Proposed Content of Section D – Quality of Life

The Quality of Life section provides direction on how the City of Saskatoon (City) may address the cultural and social identity and development of the community. This includes how:

1. Art, culture and health and safety may be supported or built into the community;
2. Heritage should be conserved and a sense of place be instilled; and
3. Community facilities and the city's open spaces such as parks and natural areas may be developed and offer community assets for people.

This section is proposed to include the following subsections:

1. Health and safety;
2. Social development;
3. Arts and culture;
4. Heritage conservation;
5. Parks and recreation open space;
6. Community facilities; and
7. Placemaking.

Details on each subsection and the source of its content is included below.

D1 – Health and Safety

This section includes policies relating to health and safety, includes sub-headings for:

- Health and wellbeing;
- Safe growth and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design;
- Safety in the built environment; and
- Emergency services and preparedness.

Healthy, safe communities are a key component of quality of life. The design and condition of neighbourhoods can impact the health of residents. As such, the City of Saskatoon prioritizes public safety in the built environment, monitors construction through permitting and inspections, and ensures emergency services are well equipped to provide protection for residents.

To address these topics, the policies included in Section 3.1 – Safe Growth of the [current OCP](#) are maintained. They outline the City's commitment to and use of the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and outline when and how these principles are used.

In addition this section includes new policy informed by the following documents:

- [Strategic Plan 2018-2021](#)
- [Building Bylaw No. 9455](#)
- [Emergency Planning Bylaw No. 7269](#)
- [Fire and Protective Services Bylaw No. 7990](#)

The topics addressed by the new policies are listed below under the sub-heading where they are proposed to be included:

- Health and Well-Being
The City's role in positively influencing social and environmental determinants of health and in supporting efforts to achieve wellbeing in all dimensions of health.
- Safe Growth and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
Policies located in Section 3.1 – Safe Growth of the [current OCP](#) are maintained. These policies outline the City's commitment to and use of the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and outline when and how these principles are used.
- Safety in the Built Environment
 - The oversight of the construction of buildings and structures; and
 - Delivery of neighbourhood safety, property maintenance, and bylaw compliance programs.
- Emergency Services and Preparedness
 - The provision of police, fire, and emergency management services;
 - Coordinated emergency response and recovery planning; and
 - Coordinated preparedness, planning, and recovery for critical municipal infrastructure.

D2 – Social Development

This section includes policies relating social development, includes sub-headings for:

- Inclusive community
- Accessibility – physical, financial, and cultural
- Attainable housing
- Partnerships and programs
- Food systems

Social development addresses issues of income, age, gender, ability, culture, attainable housing and food security at the community level to help ensure all residents have equitable access to a greater quality of life. Investing in social issues means investing in people, along with the removal of barriers to participation. The City is committed to supporting the social needs of residents through appropriate public engagement,

equitable distribution of community services and ongoing consideration of social issues in land use policy and land use decisions.

To address these topics, policies included in Section 17.0 – Social Development of the [current OCP](#) are included in this section. These policies outline the City's commitment to an equitable distribution of community facilities, partnering with other public, private and voluntary sector organizations in addressing the social aspects of land use planning, monitoring housing needs, and ensuring the accessibility of public facilities.

In addition new policy informed by the following documents is included:

- [Saskatoon Speaks;](#)
- [Strategic Plan 2018-2021;](#)
- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan ;](#)
- [Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Policy C10-023;](#)
- [Age-friendly Saskatoon Initiative Recommendations;](#)
- [Culture Plan Implementation Refresh;](#)
- [Park Development Guidelines Policy A10-017;](#)
- [Innovative Housing Incentives Policy C09-002;](#)
- [Housing Business Plan 2013-2022;](#)
- [Towards a Food Strategy for Saskatoon \(March 2014 Council Agenda\); and](#)
- [Saskatoon Food Charter 2002.](#)

The topics addressed by new policies are listed below under the sub-heading where they are proposed to be included:

- Inclusive Community
 - Recreation and parks programs and opportunities that facilitate social inclusion;
 - Respect, understanding, and appreciation of cultural diversity;
 - Opportunities and accessibility for older adults to civic programs and services; and
 - The social and recreational needs within Indigenous and newcomer communities.
- Accessibility – Physical, Financial and Cultural
 - Affordability of recreation facilities and programs;
 - Accessibility of recreation and services; and

- Policies included in Section 17.2 of the [current OCP](#) regarding the equitable distribution of community facilities are included in this sub-section.
- Attainable Housing
 - The accommodation of diverse housing needs; and
 - The coordination of strategies and programs addressing homelessness in Saskatoon.
- Partnerships and Programs
 - Partnerships on the design and implementation of programs;
 - Relationships and partnerships with First Nations and Métis communities and Indigenous organizations; and
 - Support for community associations.
- Food Systems
 - Accessibility of food and nutrition education;
 - Environmental impacts of food production, processing, storage, transport, preparation, and disposal; and
 - Urban agriculture and the production of food locally.

D3 – Arts and Culture

This section includes policies relating to arts and culture. Saskatoon is a cultural city with diverse traditions, languages, stories, and ideas. Our communities work collaboratively to create dynamic, sustainable urban environments that reinforce the freedom to express, feel, innovate, share and take creative risks. The City encourages diverse forms of cultural expression and takes immense pride in supporting the inclusivity and accessibility of arts and culture in every neighbourhood, so everyone has the opportunity to participate.

This section is an entirely new addition to the OCP. The proposed new policies informed by the following documents have been developed:

- [Culture Plan](#)
- [Culture Plan Implementation Refresh](#)
- [Saskatoon Speaks](#)
- [Public Art Policy C10-025](#)

The topics addressed by new policies are listed below under the sub-heading where they are proposed to be included:

- Culture
 - Cultural development;
 - The City Centre and Downtown as cultural destinations;
 - The cultural economy and tourism;

- Programming, festivals, and events in civic spaces; and
- Cross-cultural initiatives.
- Public Art
 - Public art in spaces throughout the city;
 - Public art into civic capital projects;
 - Diversity of public art and artists; and
 - Awareness and understanding of public art.

D4 – Heritage Conservation

This section includes policies relating to heritage conservation. Heritage helps define a community's identity. Saskatoon has a rich history dating back thousands of years, from Indigenous peoples, primarily of Cree, Dakota and Saulteaux descent, to the establishment of the Métis Nation, and the arrival of the Temperance Colonization Society and other newcomers.

Saskatoon's natural, built, cultural, and documented heritage resources are indicative of our beginnings, our roots and our growth and evolution through time. They mark our achievements and challenges and serve to remind us of our resilience, diversity and resolve to thrive as a community.

To address these topics, the policies included in Section 15.0 – Heritage of the [current OCP](#) have been maintained or updated with new policy informed by the following documents:

- [Civic Heritage Policy](#);
- [Culture Plan](#);
- [Saskatoon Heritage Plan](#); and
- [ayisiyiniwak A Communications Guide 2nd Edition](#)

The proposed new policies address:

- Consideration of heritage resources and heritage conservation in the planning and review of development plans;
- The maintenance and use of the municipal Heritage Plan;
- Maintenance of a listing of significant heritage resources;
- Support for property owners for the conservation of heritage resources;
- Conserving, revitalizing, and honouring Indigenous culture and heritage;
- Promotion of heritage awareness, appreciation, and education in Saskatoon; and
- Identification and protection of important ecosystems and other forms of natural heritage.

D5 – Parks and Recreation Open Space

This section includes policies relating to parks and any other open space areas used for recreation. Parks and recreation open space are an essential public amenity. The livability of a city is fundamentally tied to their being part of the urban environment. The City of Saskatoon's goal is to ensure that all residents can engage in meaningful and accessible recreation experiences that foster individual and community well-being as well as the well-being of our natural and built environments.

To address this topic, the policies included in Section 10.0 – Parks and Recreation Open Space are incorporated, including policy on the general allocation of parks, park development, park deficiencies, park linkages and joint-use parks.

In addition it includes new policy informed by the following documents:

- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#);
- [Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth Regional Plan](#);
- [Service Level for Park Maintenance & Design 2017](#); and
- [Recreational Use of Storm Water Ponds Policy C10-024](#).

The proposed new policies address:

- Coordinating with regional partners and other levels of government regarding development of parks and open spaces;
- Budgeting for parks lifecycle replacement and amenity refreshment;
- Park and recreation open space design considerations;
- The management of naturalized areas;
- The design and use of storm water retention ponds; and
- Policies included in Section 10.2 of the [current OCP](#) regarding park development, the general allocation of parks, park deficiencies, park linkages, and joint-use parks are maintained and included in this section.

D6 – Community Facilities

This section includes policies relating to community facilities. Community facilities help build healthy communities. Providing amenities for year-round recreation, physical activity and social interaction contributes to overall quality of life in Saskatoon. The City is a major delivery agent of public recreation and has a significant investment in community infrastructure, including many multi-use program spaces throughout the city. School buildings and sites are focal points for many residential neighbourhoods. They are a community resource that may have more than one role in its lifespan. The provision of educational uses is a priority and the City ensures that the location of these facilities accommodates community needs and is compatible with surrounding land uses.

To address this topic, the policies included in Section 11.0 – Community Services and Facilities are incorporated with policy regarding:

- Planning for community centres;
- Community centre site locations;
- Scale of facilities;
- Balance between the development of civic infrastructure in new areas and the maintenance and renewal of infrastructure in existing areas;
- School sites;
- Public open space;
- Shared facilities;
- Site suitability; and
- Design principles.

In addition the policies include new policy informed by the following documents:

- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#)
- [Active Transportation Plan](#)
- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#)
- [Winter City Strategy Development Framework:](#)
- [Recreation & Parks Master Plan](#)
- [Strategic Plan 2018-2021](#)
- [The Planning and Development Act, 2007 – Section 32](#)

The proposed new policies address:

- The location of school sites;
- Integration of facilities in the development of new or enhanced recreation and parks infrastructure;
- The use of the Recreation & Parks Master Plan in guiding recreational facility development;
- Budgeting for recreational facilities;
- Accessibility of community facilities; and
- The design of community facilities.

D7 – Placemaking

This section includes policies relating to placemaking. Placemaking is the creation of a sense of place within the public realm. The City uses community-inspired design to build and preserve creative, welcoming public spaces that promote community interaction.

To address this topic, the policies included in Section 14.0 – Urban Design and Design Review are incorporated, identifying urban design principles to be considered in the preparation and review of all plans for development, including – Design with Nature; Human Scale; Building Design; Open Space; Streetscapes; Views and Vistas; Barrier Free Access; Safety; Art in Public Places; and Landscape Design.

In addition it includes new policy informed by the following documents:

- [City of Saskatoon – Public Spaces, Activity and Urban Form Strategic Framework- City Centre Plan Phase 1;](#)
- [Saskatoon Speaks;](#)
- [Strategic Plan 2018-2021;](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - Culture Plan Implementation Refresh 2018-2022;](#)
- [City of Saskatoon - City Centre Plan;](#) and
- [Winter City Strategy Development.](#)

The proposed new policies address:

- The overall network of public spaces;
- Improvements to the public realm; and
- Saskatoon as a four-season city.