



**PUBLIC AGENDA  
GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES  
COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, June 11, 2025, 9:30 a.m.

Council Chamber, City Hall

**Committee Members:**

**Deputy Mayor H. Kelleher, Chair**

**Mayor C. Block**

**Councillor T. Davies**

**Councillor R. Donauer**

**Councillor B. Dubois**

**Councillor S. Ford**

**Councillor Z. Jeffries**

**Councillor K. MacDonald**

**Councillor J. Parker**

**Councillor R. Pearce**

**Councillor S. Timon**

*Submissions providing comments and/or requesting to speak will be accepted for public meetings using the online form at [Saskatoon.ca/write-letter-council committees](https://saskatoon.ca/write-letter-council-committees). If your submission includes a request to speak, you will be contacted by a representative from the City Clerk's Office with further information. Submissions will be accepted no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Monday the week of the meeting.*

**Pages**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair will call the meeting to order on Treaty 6 Territory and the Traditional Homeland of the Métis People and confirm roll call.

**2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

6 - 15

#### **Recommendation**

That the minutes of meetings of the Governance and Priorities Committee, dated April 9, 2025 (revised) and May 13, 2025, be adopted.

### 4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 5. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

#### 5.1 Decision Reports

##### 5.1.1 Preliminary 2026 and 2027 Financial Forecast [GPC2025-0602]

16 - 45

A report of the Corporate Financial Services Division is provided.

#### **Recommendation**

The Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) recommend to City Council that:

1. The requirement for City Council to approve an indicative rate, as outlined in Council Policy No. C03-036, be waived for the 2026 and 2027 Budget;
2. Administration be directed to continue to refine the budget to reduce the proposed property tax rate increases by 1 percentage point in each of 2026 and 2027 which will be the budget presented at the November 25, 2025, Budget Deliberation meeting; and
3. Administration be directed to present a report with two additional scenarios to the November 25, 2025, Budget Deliberation meeting that detail how a further 1 percentage point reduction and a further 2 percentage point reduction could be achieved including implications of those scenarios.

#### 5.2 Approval Reports

#### 5.3 Information Reports

#### **Recommendation**

That the reports submitted as Items 6.3.1 to 6.3.7 be received as information.

<b>5.3.1</b>	<b>City of Saskatoon's Response to Homelessness [CC2025-0105]</b>	<b>46 - 60</b>
	A report of the Community Services Division is provided along with the following:	
	<u>Requests to Speak</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul Hemsing, dated May 29, 2025</li> <li>• Shawna Nelson, Executive Director, Downtown Saskatoon Business Improvement District, dated June 6, 2025</li> <li>• Daryl Brown, Phoenix Starter Alternator Repair, dated June 6, 2025</li> </ul>	
<b>5.3.2</b>	<b>Access to Public Washrooms and Drinking Water - Summer 2025 [CC2025-0104, PDCS2023-0612]</b>	<b>61 - 67</b>
	A report of the Community Services Division is provided along with a letter from Chief McBride, Saskatoon Police Service, dated May 26, 2025.	
<b>5.3.3</b>	<b>Research Junction Program Update 2025 [GPC2023-1102]</b>	<b>68 - 76</b>
	A report of the Utilities and Environment Division is provided, along with a letter from Meaghan Risling, University of Saskatchewan, dated May 27, 2025.	
<b>5.3.4</b>	<b>National Urban Park Exploration 2024 – 2025 Update [GPC2024-0603]</b>	<b>77 - 97</b>
	A report of the Utilities and Environment Division is provided along with a request to speak from Mike Velonas, Meewasin Valley Authority, dated June 6, 2025.	
<b>5.3.5</b>	<b>Referral List – Governance and Priorities Committee – June 2025 GPC2025-0604]</b>	<b>98 - 99</b>
	A report of the City Clerk's Office is provided.	
<b>5.3.6</b>	<b>Referral List – City Council – June 2025 [GPC2025-0603]</b>	<b>100 - 106</b>
	A report of the City Clerk's Office is provided.	
<b>5.3.7</b>	<b>Inquiries and Notice of Motions – June 2025 [GPC2025-0605]</b>	<b>107 - 110</b>
	A report of the City Clerk's Office is provided.	

6. MOTIONS (notice previously given)

7. URGENT BUSINESS

8. GIVING NOTICE

9. VERBAL UPDATES

9.1 Council Members - Her Worship the Mayor, FCM/SUMA, Boards, Committees and Commissions

9.2 Administration

10. REQUESTS TO SPEAK (new matters)

11. COMMUNICATIONS (requiring the direction of the Committee)

12. IN CAMERA SESSION

#### **Recommendation**

That the Committee move *In Camera* to consider the following items.

12.1 Proposed Amendments to The Cities Act

[In Camera - Information from Other Governments - Section 13 of LAFOIP]

12.2 Verbal Updates

12.2.1 Council Members - Her Worship the Mayor; FCM/SUMA; Boards, Committees & Commissions; Personnel Subcommittee (if required)

12.2.2 Administration

12.2.2.1 City Manager Updates

*[In Camera - Sections 13, 14(1), 15(1), 16(1), 17(1), 18(1), 19, 20 and 21 of LAFOIP]*

12.3 Appointments - Boards, Commissions and Committees [CK 225-4-3]

*In Camera - Consultations/Deliberations; Personal Information - Sections 16(1)(b) and (d) and 28 of LAFOIP]*

12.3.1 Code of Conduct - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee



12.3.2 Appointment and Resignation - Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee

12.3.3 Appointment - Development Appeals Board

12.3.4 Appointment - Saskatoon Appeals Board

12.3.5 Resignation - Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee

12.4 Corporate Accommodation Planning

*[In Camera - Policy Options/Advice - Section 16(1)(a) LAFOIP]*

12.5 Strategic Planning

*[In Camera - Section 94(4) of The Cities Act]*

13. RISE AND REPORT

14. ADJOURNMENT



**PUBLIC MINUTES**  
**GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 9:30 a.m.**  
**Council Chamber, City Hall**

**PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor K. MacDonald, Chair  
Mayor C. Block  
Councillor T. Davies  
Councillor R. Donauer  
Councillor S. Ford  
Councillor Z. Jeffries, via teleconference  
Councillor H. Kelleher  
Councillor R. Pearce  
Councillor S. Timon

**ABSENT:** Councillor B. Dubois  
Councillor J. Parker

**ALSO PRESENT:** City Manager J. Jorgenson  
City Solicitor C. Yelland  
City Clerk A. Titemore  
Deputy City Clerk S. Bryant

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order on Treaty 6 Territory and the Traditional Homeland of the Métis People and confirmed roll call.

**2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

**Moved By:** Councillor Kelleher

1. That the letter submitting comments from Sherry Olson, dated May 11, 2025 be added to Item 6.1.1;
2. That Appointment - Albert Community Centre Management Committee be added as Item 13.3.8; and
3. That the agenda be confirmed as amended.

In Favour (9): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (2): Councillor Dubois, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**Moved By:** Councillor Timon

That the minutes of meeting of the Governance and Priorities Committee dated April 9, 2025, be adopted.

In Favour (9): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (2): Councillor Dubois, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**6. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE REPORTS**

**6.1 Decision Reports**

**6.1.1 Priority Based Budgeting Follow Up [GPC2025-0502]**

A report of the Corporate Financial Services Division was provided along with a letter submitting comments from Sherry Olson, dated May 11, 2025.

Chief Financial Officer Hack presented the report with a PowerPoint and together with Director of Sustainability South responded to questions of Committee.

**Moved By:** Councillor Pearce

That the Governance and Priorities Committee:

1. Approve option 3, implementation of a Priority Based Budgeting tool for the 2027 budget cycle; and
2. Direct the Administration to remove the requirement for the Climate Budget to include GHG Additions starting in 2026-2027.

In Favour (9): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (2): Councillor Dubois, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Moved By:** Mayor Block

That Administration report back with options to ensure transparency around greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as we transition to priority-based budgeting. The report should include ways to track and report GHG emissions related to programs and services.

In Favour (9): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (2): Councillor Dubois, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **6.2 Approval Reports**

## **6.3 Information Reports**

**Moved By:** Councillor Ford

That the reports submitted as Items 6.3.1 to 6.3.3 be received as information.

In Favour (9): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (2): Councillor Dubois, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**6.3.1 Delivering on the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan – 2024 Progress Report [GPC2024-0502]**

A report of the Strategy and Transformation Division was provided.

Strategy and Transformation Officer Phillips presented the report with a PowerPoint. He responded to questions of Committee along with Chief Financial Officer Hack and City Manager Jorgenson.

**6.3.2 2024 Report on Service, Savings and Sustainability (SSS) [GPC2025-0503]**

A report of the Strategy and Transformation Division was provided.

Strategy and Transformation Officer Phillips presented the report with a PowerPoint and video.

**6.3.3 Corporate Asset Management Reporting Framework [GPC2025-0505]**

A report of the Utilities and Environment Division was provided.

General Manager, Environment and Utilities Gardiner presented the report with a PowerPoint.

**7. MOTIONS (notice previously given)**

**8. URGENT BUSINESS**

**9. GIVING NOTICE**

**10. VERBAL UPDATES**

**10.1 Council Members - Her Worship the Mayor, FCM/SUMA, Boards, Committees and Commissions**

**10.2 Administration**

**11. REQUESTS TO SPEAK (new matters)**

**11.1 Saskatoon Board of Revision Appointment Terms [GPC2025-0504]**

A letter from Cameron Choquette, Board Chair and June Bold, Board Vice-Chair, Board of Revision, dated April 28, 2025 was provided.

Cameron Choquette spoke requesting that Council consider making the term length for the Board of Revision to be two years and eliminate the requirement for the self-evaluation.

**Moved By:** Councillor Ford

That the information be received.

In Favour (9): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (2): Councillor Dubois, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**12. COMMUNICATIONS (requiring the direction of the Committee)**

**12.1 Opimihaw Creek Watershed Association - City of Saskatoon Membership [GPC2025-0506]**

A letter from Abe Quiring, Chair, Opimihaw Creek Watershed Association, dated May 2, 2025 was provided.

**Moved By:** Councillor Donauer

That the matter be referred to the Administration for a report.

In Favour (9): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (2): Councillor Dubois, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**12.2 Sherry Tarasoff - Format of Administrative Reports [GPC2025-0507]**

A letter from Sherry Tarasoff, dated May 6, 2025, is provided.

City Manager Jorgenson responded to a question of Committee.

**Moved By:** Councillor Davies

That the information be received.

In Favour (9): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (2): Councillor Dubois, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **13. IN CAMERA SESSION**

**Moved By:** Councillor Timon

That the Committee move *In Camera* to consider the following items.

In Favour (9): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (2): Councillor Dubois, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The public portion recessed at 10:33 a.m.

#### **13.1 Solicitor/Client Privilege**

*[In Camera - Solicitor/Client Privilege - Section 21 of LAFOIP]*

#### **13.2 Verbal Updates**

**13.2.1 Council Members - Her Worship the Mayor; FCM/SUMA;  
Boards, Committees & Commissions; Personnel  
Subcommittee (if required)**

##### **13.2.2 Administration**

**13.2.2.1 City Manager Updates**

*[In Camera - Sections 13, 14(1), 15(1), 16(1), 17(1), 18(1), 19, 20 and 21 of LAFOIP]*

**13.3 Appointments - Boards, Commissions and Committees [CK 225-4-3]**

*In Camera - Consultations/Deliberations; Personal Information - Sections 16(1)(b) and (d) and 28 of LAFOIP]*

**13.3.1 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee**

**13.3.2 Council Representative - Research Junction Grant  
Adjudication Committee**

**13.3.3 Appointment - Meewasin Valley Authority Appeal Board**

**13.3.4 Resignation - Public Art Advisory Committee**

**13.3.5 Resignation - Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee**

**13.3.6 Resignation - Art Gallery of Saskatchewan Board of Directors  
(Remai Modern)**

**13.3.7 Appointment and Resignation - Saskatoon Public Library**

**13.3.8 Appointment - Albert Community Centre Management  
Committee**

**14. RISE AND REPORT**

The Committee convened *In Camera* at 10:45 a.m. The following were in attendance as noted:

- All Committee members (with the exception of Councillors Dubois and Parker)
- City Manager Jorgenson
- General Manager, Community Services Anger
- General Manager, Environment and Utilities Gardiner
- General Manager, Transportation and Construction Schmidt
- Public Policy and Government Relations Officer Jordan (virtual)
- Chief Financial Officer Hack
- Strategy and Transformation Officer Phillips



- Deputy City Solicitor Rankine, for item 13.1
- Fire Chief Wegren
- Chief of Staff Cormack (virtual)
- City Solicitor Yelland
- City Clerk Tittermore
- Deputy City Clerk Bryant

Public Policy and Government Relations Officer Jordan and Chief of Staff Cormack excused themselves from the meeting during consideration of item 13.2.2.1.

Mayor Block excused herself from the meeting during a portion of consideration of 13.2.2.1 and 13.3.

Chief of Staff Cormack rejoined the meeting during consideration of item 13.3.

All Administration, with the exception of the City Solicitor, City Manager, City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk excused themselves from the meeting prior to consideration of 13.3.

Councillor Jeffries excused himself from the meeting during consideration of item 13.3.

The Committee moved to rise and report. The *In Camera* portion of the meeting recessed at 12:51 p.m.

Committee reconvened publicly, and reported as follows:

### **13.1 Solicitor/Client Privilege**

*[In Camera - Solicitor/Client Privilege - Section 21 of LAFOIP]*

**Moved By:** Councillor Pearce

That the information and the discussion remain *In Camera* under Section 21 of LAFOIP.

In Favour (8): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (3): Councillor Dubois, Councillor Jeffries, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **13.2 Verbal Updates**

### **13.2.1 Council Members - Her Worship the Mayor; FCM/SUMA; Boards, Committees & Commissions; Personnel Subcommittee**

**Moved By:** Councillor Pearce

That the information and the discussion remain *In Camera* under Sections 13, 14(1), 15(1), 16(1), 17(1), 18(1), 19, 20 and 21 of *LAFOIP*.

In Favour (8): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (3): Councillor Dubois, Councillor Jeffries, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **13.2.2 Administration**

#### **13.2.2.1 City Manager Updates**

*[In Camera - Sections 13, 14(1), 15(1), 16(1), 17(1), 18(1), 19, 20 and 21 of LAFOIP]*

**Moved By:** Councillor Pearce

That the information and the discussion remain *In Camera* under Sections 13, 14(1), 15(1), 16(1), 17(1), 18(1), 19, 20 and 21 of *LAFOIP*.

In Favour (8): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (3): Councillor Dubois, Councillor Jeffries, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **13.3 Appointments - Boards, Commissions and Committees [CK 225-4-3]**

*In Camera - Consultations/Deliberations; Personal Information - Sections 16(1)(b) and (d) and 28 of LAFOIP]*

**Moved By:** Councillor Pearce

That the recommended appointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees and any further direction, as noted by the City Clerk, be reported to the May 21, 2025 Regular Business meeting.

In Favour (8): Councillor MacDonald, Mayor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Ford, Councillor Kelleher, Councillor Pearce, and Councillor Timon

Absent (3): Councillor Dubois, Councillor Jeffries, and Councillor Parker

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

---

Deputy Mayor K. MacDonald

---

City Clerk A. Tittermore

### Preliminary 2026 and 2027 Financial Forecast

#### ISSUE

The City of Saskatoon's (City) business plan and budget serves as the resource allocation plan for delivering City programs and services effectively. Accordingly, this report provides a 2026 and 2027 forecast and seeks City Council's policy guidance.

#### RECOMMENDATION

The Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) recommend to City Council that:

1. The requirement for City Council to approve an indicative rate, as outlined in Council Policy No. C03-036, be waived for the 2026 and 2027 Budget;
2. Administration be directed to continue to refine the budget to reduce the proposed property tax rate increases by 1 percentage point in each of 2026 and 2027 which will be the budget presented at the November 25, 2025, Budget Deliberation meeting; and
3. Administration be directed to present a report with two additional scenarios to the November 25, 2025, Budget Deliberation meeting that detail how a further 1 percentage point reduction and a further 2 percentage point reduction could be achieved including implications of those scenarios.

#### BACKGROUND

City Council adopted Council Policy No. C03-036, [Multi-Year Business Plan and Budget Policy](#), which sets the City's approach to business planning and budgeting. This approach instructs the Administration to forecast operating expenditures and revenues required to maintain existing services as well as incorporate the cost of any previous City Council direction early in the budget process. This includes allocations for annual inflation and growth implications.

Because of the significant inflationary impacts that emerged during the 2024/2025 budget process, City Council directed the Administration to phase in those implications to the budget over several years. This includes phase-ins for roadways, facility maintenance, fire apparatus and Saskatoon Light and Power asset management requirements over five years as part of the July 25, 2023, Governance and Priorities Committee Special meeting when considering the [2024/2025 Budget Inflationary and Phase-in decisions report](#). These phase-ins are aimed at returning purchasing power to several of the City's infrastructure programs through additional investment above and beyond annual inflationary needs. For reference, examples of inflationary pressures since 2021 on several commonly purchased materials by the City including sand (22.9%), asphalt (38.3%), buses (22.7%) and cement (27.9%) from various Statistics Canada indexes are outlined in Table 1 below:

Table 1- Various Statistics Canada Price Indexes

Materials and Equipment Inflation (Price Change in Various Producer Price Indices and Selected Products)					
Canada, Annual Average, Year over Year Rate of Change.					
Price Index/ Product Categories	2021	2022	2023	2024	Cumulative
<b>Raw Materials Prices</b>	<b>32.4%</b>	<b>23.7%</b>	<b>-8.1%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>48.4%</b>
Crude energy products	65.2%	49.4%	-17.8%	-3.9%	92.9%
Stone, sand, gravel products	3.4%	6.8%	8.4%	4.3%	22.9%
Logs, pulpwood and other forestry products	25.9%	24%	-16.2%	-7%	26.6%
Metal ores and concentrates products	14.5%	3.5%	2.1%	9.4%	29.6%
<b>Industrial Product Prices</b>	<b>13.9%</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>25.7%</b>
Asphalt	18.9%	34.2%	-10.4%	-4.3%	38.3%
Cement	0.5%	8.1%	7.9%	11.4%	27.9%
Lumber and other wood products	40.4%	-3%	-24%	2.2%	15.6%
Metal building and construction materials	31.7%	18%	-2.6%	-2.6%	44.5%
<b>Machinery &amp; Equipment Prices</b>	<b>-2.8%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>16.9%</b>
Light Duty Trucks	-4%	5.2%	6.8%	3.1%	11.1%
Medium and Heavy Duty Trucks	-4.6%	9.6%	9.7%	3.6%	18.3%
Buses	-6.3%	12.2%	12.5%	4.2%	22.7%

Source: Calculations from Statistics Canada Tables 18-10-0268-01, 18-10-0266-01, and 18-10-0283-01

As part of the City's internal budget planning process, any increases in departmental budgets are reviewed by the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) prior to presentation to GPC. Estimated budgetary reductions of \$9.5 million in 2026 and \$4.4 million in 2027 were made during ELT review. As a result, from the Administration's perspective this forecast reflects the minimum requirements to enact City Council's previous budgetary directions and address anticipated 2026 and 2027 inflationary and growth impacts to maintain existing service levels.

## DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The development of this early financial forecast considers four distinct factors:

- Phase-in and Previous Direction from City Council;
- Civic Operating Expenditures estimates to Maintain Existing Service Level;
- Civic Operating Revenue estimates; and
- Saskatoon Police Service budget estimates.

The remainder of this section provides an overview of these estimates with further details found in Appendices 1, 2 and 3.

### Expenditures for Phase-ins and Previous Direction from City Council

This category includes items such as:

- Phase-ins for the City's Bus Rapid Transit (Link) system, expected to be operational in 2028 (see Appendix 4);
- Operating costs for two new fire halls anticipated to be open in 2027; and
- Phase-ins for the East Leisure Centre expected to be operational in 2029.

Once operational, these programs and facilities are subsidized by the City's operating budget and associated property tax revenue. Phase-ins are a useful financial strategy to help smooth the fiscal impacts of new or expanded programs, service or facilities over multiple years while also providing effective interim funding for capital expenditures to lower the City's borrowing and interest costs.

An overview of the phase-ins required for these facilities and programs, as well as the phase-ins previously directed by City Council as outlined in the background section of this report can be found below in Table 2.

Table 2 – Phase-ins and Previous Direction from City Council

Description	2026	2027
Link Operating Phase-In	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
East Leisure Centre Phase-In	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
Fire Station No. 10 and 11 Phase-In	\$ 399,200	\$2,459,600
<a href="#">July 25, 2023 Direction</a> - Fire Apparatus Reserve Phase-in	\$ 115,500	\$ 115,500
<a href="#">July 25, 2023 Direction</a> - Civic Buildings Comprehensive Maintenance Reserve Phase-in	\$ 402,900	\$ 402,900
<a href="#">July 25, 2023 Direction</a> - Paved Roadways Infrastructure Reserve Phase-in	\$1,530,000	\$1,530,000
<a href="#">July 25, 2023 Direction</a> - Snow and Ice Management Contingency Reserve Phase-in	\$ 322,000	\$ 322,000
<a href="#">July 25, 2023, Direction</a> - Saskatoon Light & Power (SL&P) Return on Investment Phase Out *	\$ 495,000	\$ 495,000
<a href="#">Aug 16, 2023 Direction</a> - Major Capital Project Prioritization Funding Plan Contribution	\$ 350,000	\$ 330,000
<b>TOTAL PHASE-INS AND PREVIOUS DIRECTION</b>	<b>\$7,514,600</b>	<b>\$9,555,000</b>

\* Although this is a revenue reduction it has been included within all other Phase-ins and previous direction and is included within appendix 2.

Overall, these phase-ins and previous direction from City Council require approximately \$7.5 million and \$9.6 million in 2026 and 2027 respectively.

#### Civic Operating Expenditures to Maintain Existing Service Levels

Additional key drivers of the City's operating expenditures are inflation and growth. Inflation in this context can be defined as a change in relative prices for the City's operating expenditure basket, such as materials, labour and contractor costs. Growth reflects the change in quantities of the services the City provides, such as, additional kilometers of roadway, more hectares of park space being added to the city, or new neighbourhood expansion requiring transit services.

For inflation, the City is forecasting expenditure increases of 2.79% (+\$14.2 million) in 2026 and 2.96% (+\$15.9 million) in 2027. Some of the largest inflationary driven expenditures are due to increases in construction and contractor costs, collective bargaining agreements and technology licenses.

The City forecasts growth-related expenditures to increase by 1.62% (+\$8.2 million) in 2026 and 0.92% (+\$4.9 million) in 2027. For reference the City's population has grown 4% to 5% annually over the past two years, highlighting that the expenditure increases due to growth are well below the population increase. Some of the largest growth-related expenditures are due to:

- \$4.0 million to maintain a growing road network;
- \$2.6 million for Snow & Ice to continue to build funding for a 6<sup>th</sup> snow event and reserve contributions for major event responses; and
- \$3.2 million for Information Technology resources to support growing needs in Cyber Security, GIS and operational requirements.

While inflation and growth continue to put pressure on the City's annual budget, the City makes efforts every year to stretch tax dollars further through efficiencies and cost avoidances. Through efficiencies and cost saving measures, the City has saved tens of millions of dollars over the past decade and approximately \$5.4 million in 2024 alone as outlined in the City's annual report on [Service, Savings and Sustainability](#). However, these savings are not enough to fully offset rising costs. Without further investment to provide for the inflationary and growth impacts on essential civic services such as road maintenance, snow clearing, fire services, parks maintenance and transit; a declining level of service could be expected.

In addition, the Administration recognizes residents are concerned about affordability and year over year increases to the City budget. However, the reality is that previous budgets have not provided for the full inflationary and growth needs of the City. Despite this, the City has maintained strong service levels. These efforts as well as the City's declining spending per capita (adjusted for inflation) are further detailed in the expenditure and revenue trends section of Appendix 1 and 2 and have been highlighted in various reports to City Council, most notably:

- A report from the November 28, 2023 City Council Budget Deliberation meeting [Comparing the Growth in Federal, Provincial and Municipal Operating Budget Expenditures 2017 – 2023](#), showed that while City spending is going up each year, it's still 9.7% below the inflation and growth rates. In contrast, Provincial and Federal spending were 1.5% and 35% above their experienced inflation and growth rates; and
- A report from the independent office of the City Auditor to the January 15, 2025 Standing Policy Committee on Finance, [Financial Review Audit](#), which highlighted that operating expenses per capita have declined by 7% from 2019 to 2023 when adjusted for inflation.

These reports emphasize how Administration and City Council are committed to transparency and responsible financial planning to provide the infrastructure and delivery of essential civic services needed in a rapidly growing city.

---

### Revenue Estimates

Excluding property tax revenue changes from the rate-setting process, the Administration is forecasting operating revenue increases of approximately \$10.7 million (+3.49%) in 2026 and \$12.8 million (+4.07%) in 2027. The revenue estimates exclude the SL&P Return on Investment Phase-Out as in Table 1. While substantive, these increases continue to be below the rate of inflation, growth and the associated expenditure impacts facing the City. This reflects a longer-term fiscal challenge with the City's limited and lagging non-tax revenues. Details on the revenue projections are explained in Appendix 1.

### Civic Budget Overall Summary

Overall, the City is forecasting civic expenditure increases of 5.89% (+ \$29.9 million) in 2026 and 5.66% (+\$30.4 million) in 2027 to maintain existing service levels and address the required phase-ins and previous direction of City Council. These are offset by the noted revenue increases of \$10.7 million in 2026 and \$12.8 million in 2027.

### Saskatoon Police Service Budget Estimates

In addition to the Civic Budget operating requirements, the Saskatoon Police Service is estimating a budget increase of 10.42% (\$13.5 million) in 2026 and a 6.41% increase (\$9.2 million) in 2027 as detailed in Appendix 3.

The forecasts provided by the Saskatoon Police Service would also need to be funded via the property tax.

### Forecasted Property Tax Implications

While the Administration is confident the figures in this report, including the property tax impact, will not be what is approved at November's budget deliberations, this fully transparent early forecast is a critical starting point to understand the financial requirements facing the City as we head into 2026 and 2027.

For informational purposes, these forecasts would increase the property tax of a median assessed property valued at \$397,000 by \$22.14 per month in 2026 and \$18.04 per month in 2027. A further breakdown of the property tax requirement can be found in Tables 3 and 4 below:

Table 3 – Estimated 2026 Property Tax for Median Assessed Household (\$397,000)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Property Tax % Increase</b>	<b>Property Tax Monthly \$ Increase</b>
Phase-ins	2.27%	\$5.07
Civic Budget	3.54%	\$7.92
Police Budget	4.09%	\$9.15
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.90%</b>	<b>\$22.14</b>



Table 4 – Estimated 2027 Property Tax for Median Assessed Household (\$397,000)

Item	Property Tax % Increase	Property Tax Monthly \$ Increase
Phase-ins	2.61%	\$6.41
Civic Budget	2.21%	\$5.44
Police Budget	2.52%	\$6.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.34%</b>	<b>\$18.04</b>

The Administration intends to continue to refine these forecasts and bring forward a budget, at the November 25, 2025, Budget Deliberation meeting, with a minimum one percentage point reduction to the property taxes from Civic Operations.

The one percentage reduction will likely come largely from adjustments to the phase-ins as shown in Table 1 as well as increased budgetary risk in some areas but overall have minimal impact on service levels in 2026 and 2027 over 2025. The implications of these adjustments will be outlined in future reporting. For reference, for every 1 percentage point change in the property tax rate increase a combination of expenditure reductions and non-tax revenue increases totaling \$3.31 million will need to be found for 2026 or \$3.66 in 2027.

In addition to the future proposed budget headed to the November 25, 2025 Budget Deliberations meeting, Administration will present a report for City Council's consideration that will detail two scenarios with a goal to further lower property tax:

**Scenario 1 – A Further 1 Percentage Point Additional Reduction to the Forecasted Property Tax**

This scenario would include changes required to achieve a further 1 percentage point reduction to the forecasted property tax from the civic budget, for a total of 2 percentage point reduction compared with the property tax increase outlined above. In general, this scenario would require:

- Larger adjustments to the proposed phase-ins; and
- Reductions to growth and inflationary increases and/or adjustments to existing programs and service levels.

Reductions to the growth and inflation allocations will increase the risk of a service level not being able to be achieved or maintained due to budgets not keeping pace with increasing costs.

Administration will also explore adjustments to existing programs and service levels that would be required to achieve Scenario 1.

**Scenario 2 – A Further 2 Percentage Point Additional Reduction to the Potential Property Tax**

This scenario would include changes that would be required to achieve a further 2 percentage point reduction to the forecasted property tax from the civic budget, for a total of 3 percentage point property tax reduction from today's report. This scenario would include:

## Preliminary 2026 and 2027 Financial Forecast

- Larger reductions and adjustments than Scenario 1: and
- Additional adjustments to service levels or programs to achieve the additional reduction.

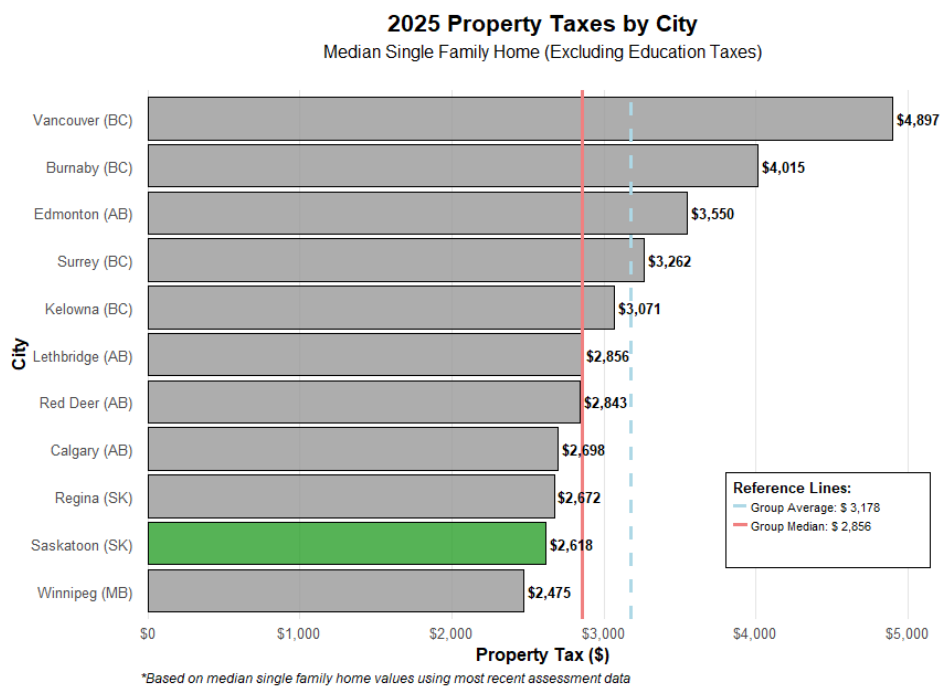
### Saskatoon Police Service Scenarios

It is important to note that the Civic Operating budget currently makes up 5.81% of the property tax increase in 2026 and 4.82% property tax increase in 2027, with Saskatoon Police Service being 4.09% and 2.52% property tax increase respectively.

The development of scenarios by the Administration would be on the civic operating budget only. To receive additional information or scenarios from the Saskatoon Police Service, City Council would have to request this through the Board of Police Commissioners via a motion arising from this report.

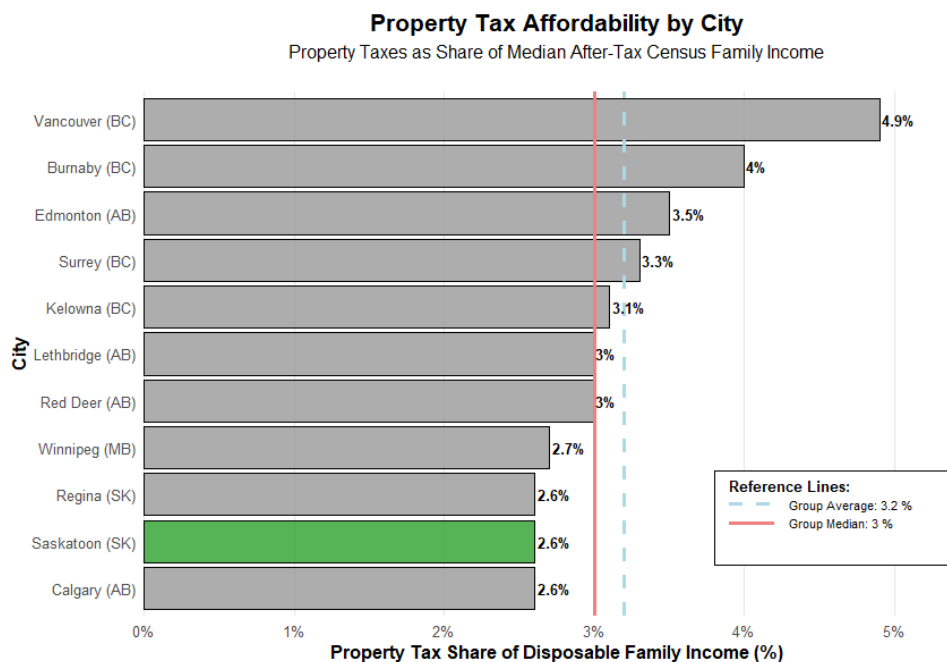
### Comparisons to Other Jurisdictions

Despite the larger than normal financial requirements of the City's budget in recent years, the City of Saskatoon continues to have one of the lowest property tax burdens in western Canada as highlighted below:



Utilizing this data and layering it on top of the median household income in each city, the data outlines that Saskatoon has one of the more affordable property tax burdens in western Canada utilizing about 2.6% of median household income whereas the group median is approximately 3%.

## Preliminary 2026 and 2027 Financial Forecast



### Policy and Process

Although Council Policy C03-036 requires City Council to approve an indicative property tax rate, Committee has historically — and understandably — chosen a lower rate than what Administration recommends in this report. As a result, Administration is recommending an exception to the policy for this year. Instead of setting a tax target now, this report would present the forecasted financial pressures for 2026/2027 as information only, allowing Administration to continue refining the estimates. Administration will review the policy requirements after the 2026/2027 Budget process and propose any necessary updates.

It is important to note that significant work and refinement has already been undertaken by Administration to arrive at the preliminary forecast figures presented in this report. Administration is confident that a further 1 percentage point reduction in the property tax can likely be found and recommended as part of the 2026/2027 Budget Deliberations, largely through adjustments to the Phase-ins and Previous Direction from City Council category.

City Council will have the ability to further adjust the property tax through a detailed review as part of its 2026/2027 Budget deliberations scheduled to begin on November 25, 2025.

### COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

To support the release of the Preliminary 2026 and 2027 Financial Forecast a Communication Plan has been developed which includes:

- A presentation to media;

- A public news release;
- An *At a Glance* info sheet on the Preliminary 2026/2026 Financial Forecast;
- An informative video and posts on the City's social media channels;
- Appearances on various radio and news outlets; and
- Information on the City's website **saskatoon.ca/budget**.

These efforts are part of our commitment to transparency and keeping residents, businesses and community partners informed with accurate information about the City's financial needs and the budget process through the rest of 2025.

### NEXT STEPS

If the recommendations are approved as presented, the Administration will prepare the 2026/2027 budget document for City Council's November 25, 2025, Budget Deliberation meeting with a targeted 1 percentage point property tax reduction included.

In addition to the budget document, further reporting will be provided at budget deliberations which outlines potential scenarios to achieve further 1 percentage point and 2 percentage point property tax reductions.

At its August 2025 meeting, the Administration will update the Committee on City Council's strategic priorities and present options for additional resources. These options could either accelerate progress on those priorities or adjust service levels. The Administration will also report on unfunded capital projects that could be supported through the Reserve for Capital Expenditures. City Council can then prioritize these options, with the finalized prioritization list to be included at the November 25, 2025, Budget Deliberation meeting

### APPENDICES

1. 2026 and 2027 Revenue Projections
2. 2026 and 2027 Expenditure Projections
3. 2026 and 2027 Saskatoon Police Service Projections
4. Link Operating Phase-In

### REPORT APPROVAL

Written by: Kari Smith, Director of Finance  
Reviewed by: Clae Hack, Chief Financial Officer  
Approved by: Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

Admin Report - Preliminary 2026 and 2027 Financial Forecast.docx

**2026 and 2027 Civic Operating Revenue Projections**

This appendix details the Civic operating budget forecasted revenues for 2026 and 2027. Unless otherwise noted, all amounts presented are for 2026 and 2027 respectively.

Overall, the Administration is anticipating total revenue increases of \$10.7 million (+3.49%) and \$12.8 million (+4.07%) respectively (excluding any potential property tax increases and excluding the SL&P ROI phase-out). These increases are collectively derived from sources such as Grants-in-lieu of taxes (GILT), general revenues, user fees, government transfers and anticipated growth in the tax base. Unlike federal and provincial orders of government, municipal governments are limited in terms of how they raise revenues and are legislatively required to produce a balanced operating budget each fiscal year. This produces a strong budgetary constraint, limiting the City's fiscal flexibility to absorb persistent fiscal shocks.

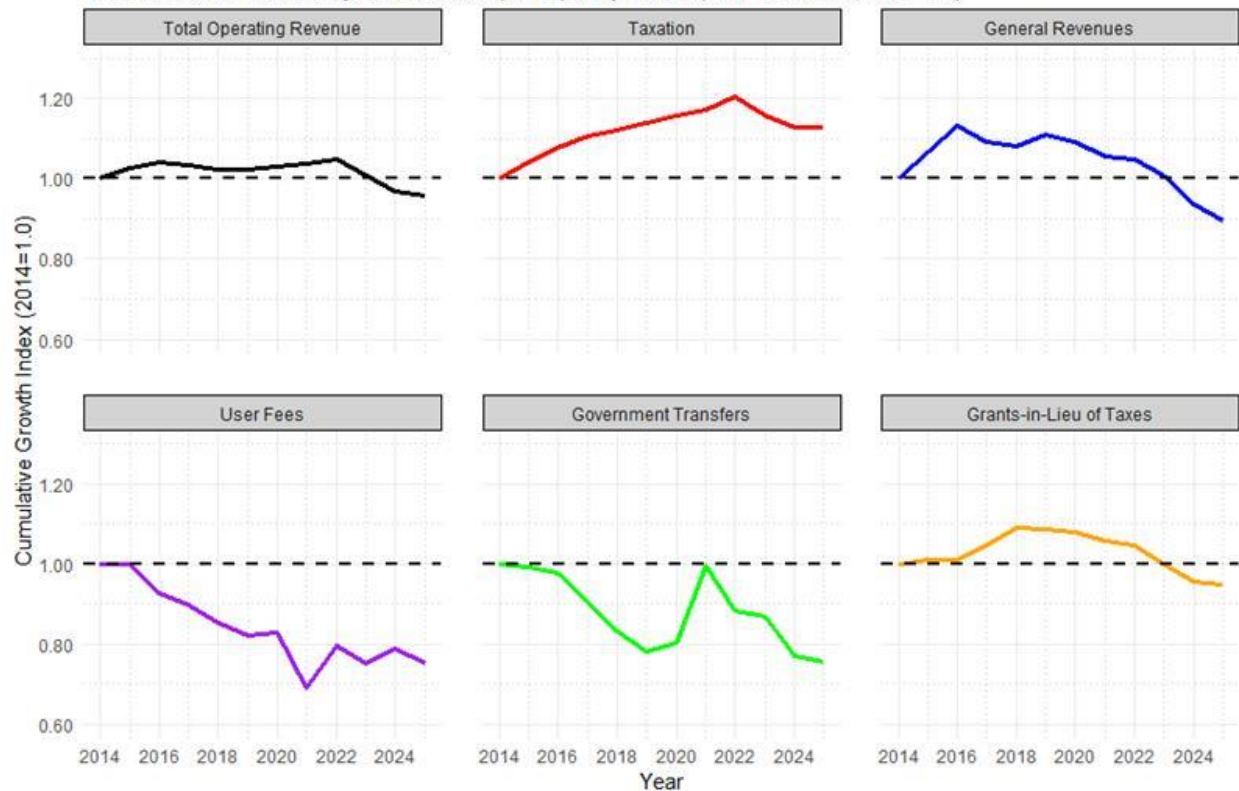
The non-tax revenue growth over this two-year period impacts the preliminary property tax rate increases, as growth in these sources is essential to offset rising expenditures. Consequently, without consistent and sustainable growth in non-tax revenue growth, the City must rely on property tax increases to address its incremental expenditure pressures.

**Civic Revenue Trends Compared to Inflation and Growth (2014 to 2025)**

As outlined in the cover report, while the 2025 budget provided record levels of operating revenue from several areas such as user fees, general revenue and government transfers; these revenue sources have not kept pace with inflationary or population growth pressures, placing more reliance on the property tax to cover rising operating costs. This has required the Administration and City Council to find efficiencies and savings to maintain many of the City's essential services. The charts below illustrate the levels of revenue from various sources and how they have kept pace with inflation and population growth from 2014 to 2025. The dotted line represents the level of revenue that would be required to match inflationary and population growth levels since 2014 and how various revenue sources have compared.

### City of Saskatoon: Cumulative Real Per Capita Revenue Growth (2014-2025)

Growth index for inflation-adjusted revenues per capita by source (2024 Constant\$, 2014=1.0)

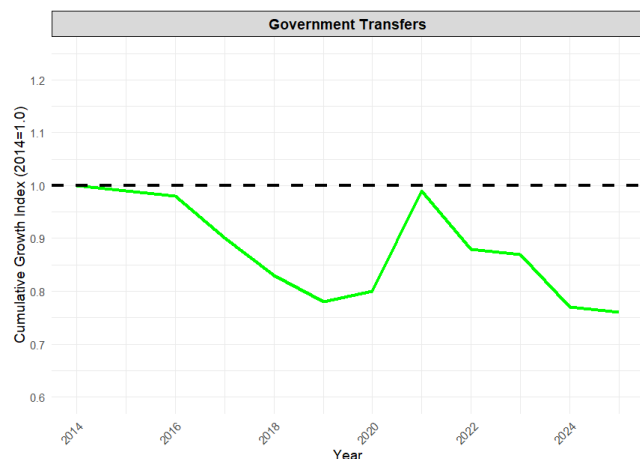


Source: City of Saskatoon Budget Data (2014-2025)

To provide some additional insight into these charts, some select examples are outlined below:

#### Government Transfers

From 2014 to 2025 revenue from Government Transfers increased by 25.4%, from \$63.9 million to \$80.2 million. However, this revenue growth has not kept pace with rising costs and population growth. Over the same period, Saskatoon's population grew by approximately 27.2% and the Consumer Price Index rose by 30.2%. Combined, these factors have outstripped the increase in revenue from Government Transfers.

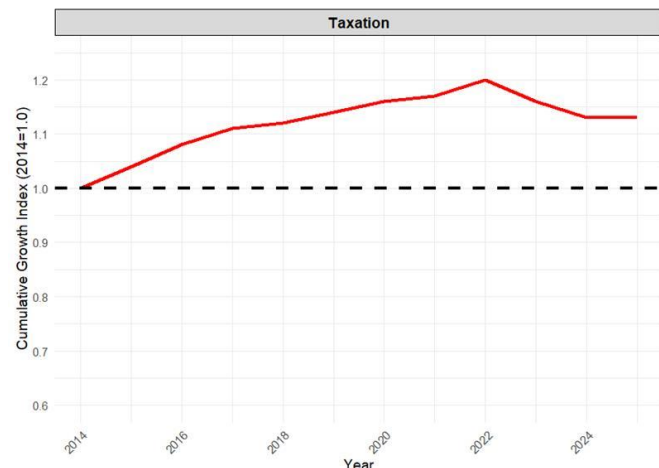


Despite record levels of Government Transfers revenue in 2025 this revenue source has lagged behind inflation and population growth pressures by over 20% since 2022 (see green line in the chart). As a result, this revenue source buys less fire apparatus,

paves fewer kilometers of roadway and pays for less staffing than it did in previous years. In real terms, per capita revenue from Government Transfers fell from \$384 in 2014 (inflation-adjusted) to \$344 in 2025. This means that even with higher nominal revenue, the City is able to purchase fewer resources and provide less service per resident than in the past and has placed more reliance on the property tax.

### Property Tax Revenue

From 2014 to 2025 revenues from property tax have increased by 87.1%, from \$178.2 million to \$333.5 million. The growth in this revenue stream has outpaced inflation and population growth as the City has had a growing reliance on this revenue stream as it has not only had to support growing operational costs but also subsidize for other revenue streams that have not kept pace. Over the same period, Saskatoon's population grew by approximately 27.2% and the Consumer Price Index rose by 30.2%.



Revenues from property taxes have surpassed inflationary and growth pressures by approximately 10% from 2014 to 2025, however have also been less than inflationary and growth pressures by nearly 10% since 2022 (see the red line in the chart). As a result in 2025 this revenue source buys less fire apparatus, paves fewer kilometers of roadway and pays for less staffing than it did in 2022. In real terms, per capita revenue from property taxes were \$956 in 2014 (inflation-adjusted) rising to a high of \$1,151 in 2022 and falling to \$1,080 in 2025.

### **Preliminary Civic Operating Budget Revenue Forecasts**

The revenue assumptions (or forecasts) included in the preliminary property tax rate increase are explained for each business line below. Table 1 summarizes the forecasted revenue assumptions for each business line.

Table 1 – Revenue

Business Line	2026 Revenue (Increase)/Decrease	2027 Revenue (Increase)/Decrease
Community Support	(58,400)	(60,500)
Corporate Asset Management	(2,300)	(35,000)
Environmental Health	(465,700)	(100,500)
Recreation and Culture	(301,300)	(459,000)
Saskatoon Fire	(117,600)	(11,400)
Transportation	(1,091,100)	(373,300)
Urban Planning & Development	39,900	-
Taxation and General Revenues	(8,665,800)	(11,762,400)
<b>Total Civic Revenue Increase</b>	<b>(10,662,300)</b>	<b>(12,802,100)</b>

#### Community Support - \$58,400 and \$60,500 Revenue Increase

Animal Licenses and Perpetual Care revenues are forecast to increase in 2026 and 2027, due to rate increases in both years. That said, the increased rates for animal license and cemeteries will be reviewed and approved during the Business Plan and Budget Review.

#### Corporate Asset Management - \$2,300 and \$35,000 Revenue increase

The forecasted revenue increases in this business line are primarily driven by increases in property lease revenues.

#### Environmental Health - \$465,700 and \$100,500 Revenue Increase

The forecasted revenue increases for this business line are primarily driven by increasing Landfill revenues due to projected population growth and increased garbage collection tonnes from the Garbage Utility.

#### Recreation and Culture - \$301,300 and \$459,000 Revenue Increase

The forecasted revenue increases for the business line are primarily driven by rate and volume changes at the Forestry Farm Park and Zoo, leisure centres, outdoor rinks, pools, and sports fields.

The rates assumed for these increases will be reviewed and approved during the Business Plan and Budget Review.

#### Saskatoon Fire - \$117,600 and \$11,400 Revenue Increases

The forecasted revenue increases for this business line are primarily driven by the Corman Park Automatic Protection Agreement, SGI and dispatch agreement rate increases.

#### Transportation - \$1,091,100 and 373,300 Revenue Increase

The forecasted revenue increases for this business line are primarily driven by transit revenue increases of \$1,133,000 in 2026 and \$350,400 in 2027 and Access Transit revenue increases of \$29,800 in 2026.

These are offset by the following projected decreases:

- A base budget revenue decrease of \$500,000 in 2026 to adjust Parking Service revenues to actuals along with increased Temporary Reserved Parking and increases parking permits result in a net decrease of \$327,300 in 2026. Volume increases in Temporary Reserved Parking, Parking Cards and permits will result in an estimated \$22,900 increase in 2027.
- A forecasted decrease of \$21,200 due to lower Street Lighting banner revenues.



### Urban Planning and Development - \$39,900 Revenue Decrease in 2026

The forecasted revenue decreases for the business are primarily driven by a reduction of \$16,300 within Bylaw compliance to adjust to actual revenues and a \$23,600 reduction in Research and Mapping from lost external printing revenues in 2026.

### Taxation and General Revenues - \$8,665,800 and \$11,762,400 Revenue Increase

The forecasted revenue increases for this business line are primarily driven by:

- Increases to the Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant of \$4,067,000 and \$5,412,200 in 2026 and 2027 respectively, due to provincial sales tax revenue growth.
- Reduction to Fines and Penalties base revenue budget for Parking Ticket revenue. The current budget is too high by approximately \$250,000 compared to historical actuals. The Administration is proposing to spread this base budget item over both years by reducing revenues by \$125,000 in each of 2026 and 2027. Animal Violation revenue is also being decreased in 2026 by \$30,000 to adjust to historical actuals.
- Increases of \$1,400,000 and \$2,800,000 in assessment growth property tax revenue for 2026 and 2027 respectively.
- Increases of \$470,000 and \$380,000 in franchise fee revenue for 2026 and 2027 respectively from provincial Crown utilities.
- Increases of \$735,900 and \$1,848,900, for GILT revenues in 2026 and 2027 respectively. The projected revenue changes for this category are derived from several sub-categories, namely:
  - A decrease of \$624,000 in 2026 but an increase of \$310,000 in 2027 for federal and provincial GILT;
  - An increase of \$1,578,900 and \$1,648,600 for City-owned utilities; and
  - A decrease of \$219,000 and \$110,000 in 2026 and 2027 respectively from the Land Bank Program.
- Increases of \$1,459,300 and \$1,258,100 in 2026 and 2027 respectively from return on investment revenue from City-owned Water and Wastewater utilities.
- Decreases of \$100,000 in both 2026 and 2027 is to remove budgeted Carbon Tax rebate revenue that was added in prior years budgets that did not come to fruition.
- Increases of \$200,000 in each of 2026 and 2027 for investment revenue.
- Increases of \$80,000 and \$81,600 in 2026 and 2027 respectively for taxation revenues resulting from servicing agreements and tax penalties.

## **2026 and 2027 Expenditure Projections**

This appendix provides additional detail surrounding the City's Civic budget expenditure forecasts for 2026 and 2027 as presented in this report. All amounts stated within this appendix will be shown as 2026 and 2027 respectively unless otherwise stated. The expenditures in this appendix include:

- Expenditures for Phase-ins and Previous Direction from City Council; and
- Civic Operating Expenditures to Maintain Existing Service Levels
  - Mainly inflationary and growth impacts

Appendix 3 contains Saskatoon Police Service Expenditure estimates.

Land Development, Utilities expenditures and other non-mill rate programs are excluded as they are self-funded and do not rely on the property tax. These budgets will be presented as part of Budget Deliberations in November, 2025.

Overall, Administration is anticipating total Civic expenditure increases for the preliminary budget to be \$29,918,900 and \$30,431,900 respectively.

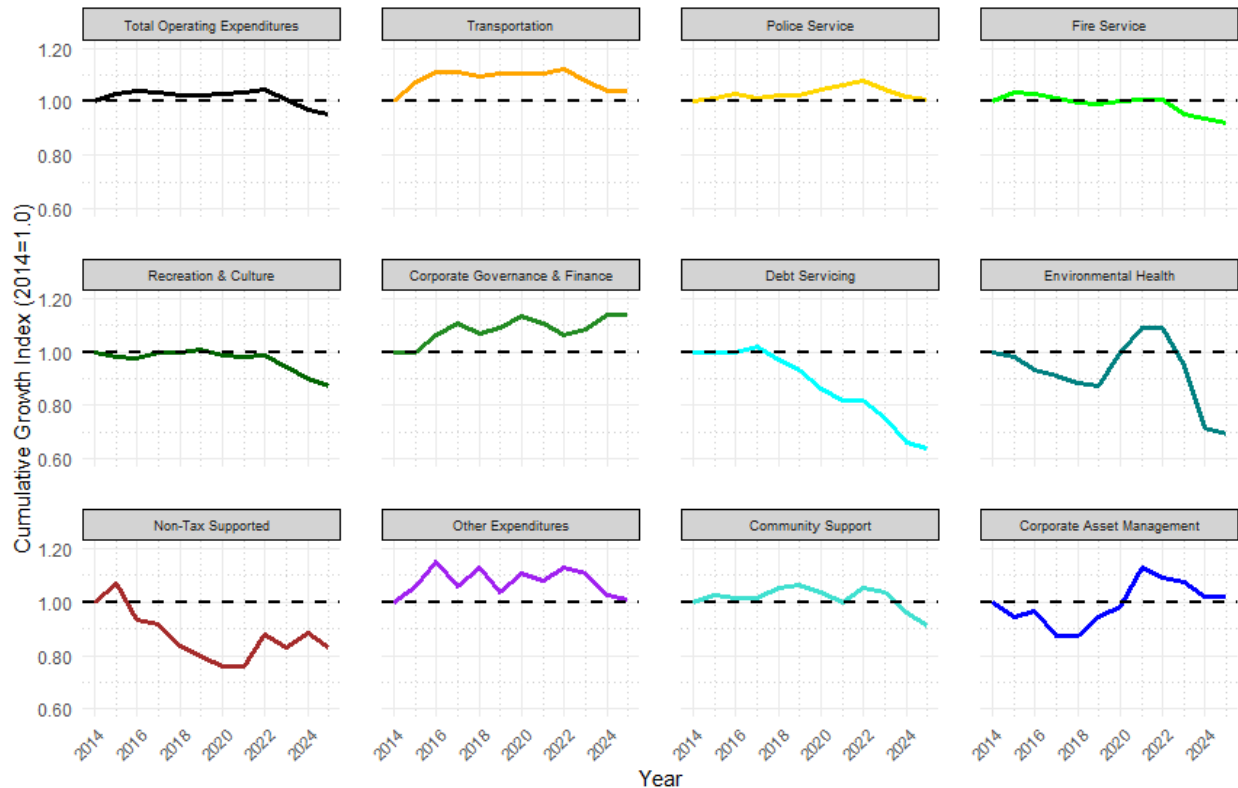
As mentioned in the cover report, it is Administrations intention to continue to revise these forecasts and present a budget at November's budget deliberations that reduces the Civic Budget property tax requirements by 1 percentage point. In addition to this reduction, the Administration will present scenarios to further reduce the property tax impact of the civic budget.

## **City Expenditure Trends Compared to Inflation and Growth (2014 to 2025)**

As outlined in the cover report, while the 2025 budget provided for record levels of investment in essential civic services such as Fire Services, Road Maintenance, Snow Clearing and Transit the pressures of inflation and population growth have been higher. This has required the Administration and City Council to find efficiencies and savings to maintain many of the City's essential services. The charts below illustrate the levels of investment in the various City Business Lines when adjusted for inflation and population growth. The dotted line represents the level of investment that would be required to match inflationary and population growth levels since 2014 and how various business line investments have compared.

### City of Saskatoon: Cumulative Real Per Capita Expenditure Growth (2014-2025)

Growth index for inflation-adjusted expenditures per capita by category (2024 Constant\$, 2014=1.0)



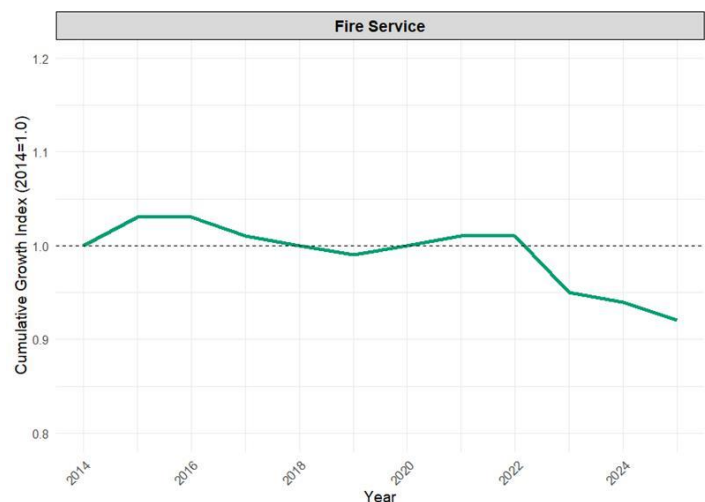
Source: City of Saskatoon Budget Data (2014-2025)

To provide some additional insight into these charts, some select examples are outlined below:

#### Fire Services

From 2014 to 2025, the Fire Services budget increased by 52.8%, from \$42.5 million to \$64.7 million. However, this growth has not kept pace with rising costs and population growth. Over the same period, Saskatoon's population grew by approximately 27.2% and the Consumer Price Index rose by 30.2%. Combined, these factors have outstripped the increase in Fire Services funding.

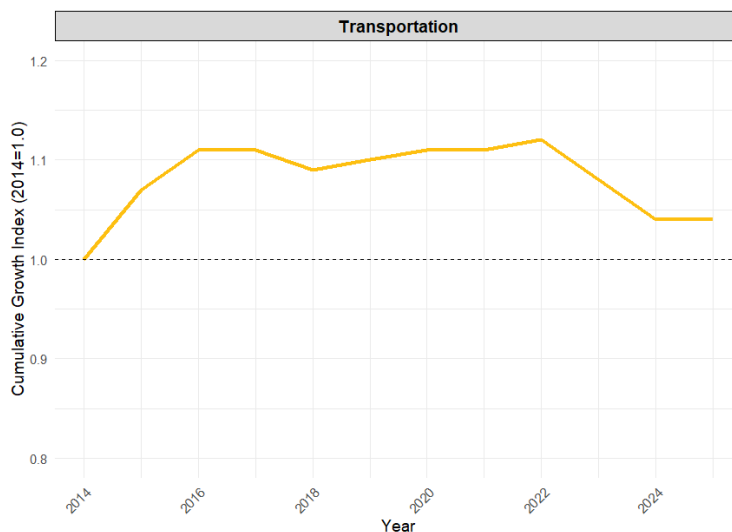
Despite record investment in 2025 (see green line in the chart), Fire Services funding has lagged behind inflation and population growth pressures by roughly 10% since 2022. As a result, the City's increased spending buys less fire equipment,



apparatus, and staffing than it did in previous years. In real terms, per capita investment in Fire Services fell from \$228 in 2014 (inflation-adjusted) to \$210 in 2025. This means that even with higher nominal spending, the City is able to purchase fewer resources and provide less service per resident than in the past.

### Transportation Services

Transportation Services had a 2014 Budget of \$104.3 million. This budget increased by 20.0% to \$125.1 million from 2014 to 2016 largely because of the City's Building Better Roads initiative where investments above and beyond inflation and population growth were provided in order to improve the City's road maintenance service level and frequency from treatments once every 80 years to the best practice level of once every 20 years. This is illustrated by the upward trend in the orange line from 2014 to 2016.



From 2016 to 2025 the City continued to make record investments into roadways and other transportation initiatives to keep pace with inflation and road network growth, increasing the investment level a further 43.6% to \$179.7 million in 2025. Despite these record levels of investment, they have not kept up with inflation and population growth pressures as indicated by the downward trend since 2022. This means, despite more dollars getting invested into Transportation Services in 2025 they repair less kilometers of roadways, can buy fewer buses and clear less snow than they did in 2022. In terms of real spending, when adjusted for inflation, the City's 2013 investment level was \$560 per capita, increasing to \$622 per capita in 2016 and peaking at \$627 per capita in 2022 while since decreasing to \$582 per capita in 2025. While overall spending per capita on transportation related expenditures have increased by approximately 4% from 2014 to 2025, they have also seen an approximate 8% reduction since 2022 largely due to significant recent inflation.

### **Preliminary Civic Operating Budget Expenditure Forecasts**

The expenditure amounts included in the 2026/2027 forecast are explained below by business line, unless otherwise stated. All expenditures are shown in the business line where they originate for this report, but in the final budget deliberations, some of these expenditures will be allocated amongst various business lines. For example, the insurance decreases, which are currently allocated to the Corporate Governance and Finance Business Line will be allocated in relative amounts to various Business Lines by the time documents are submitted for budget deliberations.

A summary of the 2026 and 2027 expenditures forecast can be found in Table 1 below, which is further detailed in the remainder of this appendix.

Table 1 – Proposed Civic Operating Expenditure Increase

Description	2026 Dollar Increase	2027 Dollar Increase
Civic Operations (excluding Phase-Ins)	\$22,404,300	\$20,876,900
Phase-Ins	\$7,514,600	\$9,555,000
<b>Total Proposed Expenditure Increase</b>	<b>\$29,918,900</b>	<b>\$30,431,900</b>

Table 2 Summarizes the 2026 and 2027 expenditure increases by Business Line with details for each Business Line also found on the following pages of this appendix.

Table 2 – Expenditures by Business Line

Business Line	2026 Expenditure Increase/(Decrease)	2027 Expenditure Increase/(Decrease)
Arts, Culture and Events Venues	\$95,000	\$96,500
Community Support	\$110,300	\$668,000
Corporate Asset Management	\$2,129,200	\$3,721,500
Corporate Governance and Finance	\$5,877,400	\$5,894,800
Environmental Health	\$463,400	\$661,800
Recreation and Culture	\$1,417,800	\$1,483,200
Saskatoon Fire	\$5,731,600	\$4,668,600
Transportation	\$13,473,700	\$12,446,500
Urban Planning & Development	\$144,500	\$296,000
Taxation and General Revenues	\$476,000	\$495,000
<b>Total Expenditures Increase</b>	<b>\$29,918,900</b>	<b>\$30,431,900</b>

### **Expenditures for Phase-ins and Previous Direction from City Council**

As shown in Table 1, phase-ins and previous direction from City Council require an additional \$7,514,600 and \$9,555,000 in forecasted expenditures for 2026 and 2027 respectively. These amounts are to phase-in dollars for future operating programs or facilities or reflective of past City Council direction. These items are forecasted within various business lines. Many of these phase-ins were presented at the July 25, 2023 special Governance and Priorities meeting as a way to address the significant inflationary impacts over five-years and included in the approved [Option 2 of the 2024/2025 Budget Inflationary & Phase-In Decisions](#) report. Details are found below for the phase-in and previous direction from City Council items.

#### **Link Operating Phase-In - \$3,500,000 and \$3,500,000 Expenditure Increase**

As further outlined in Appendix 3, the establishment of the Link or Bus Rapid Transit will require annual funding once the program becomes operational, largely due to the estimated 20% increase in service hours that will be required. This amount will be used towards the Capital project until such time as the operating costs begin to be incurred.

An amount of \$3.5 million is included in the forecasts for 2026 and 2027 to begin building for the operating budget requirements of Link.

East Leisure Centre Phase-In - \$400,000 and \$400,000 Expenditure Increase

An amount of \$400,000 is being phased in for step growth each year to build a base budget for the future East Leisure Centre operating requirement expected to open in 2029. Before the facility opens, the funding will contribute towards the City's share of construction cost of the facility.

New Fire Stations Expenditures - \$399,200 and \$2,459,600 Expenditure Increase

As part of the City's Major Capital Prioritization process, the construction and opening of two new fire stations on the west side of the City were identified as a top priority. With operations forecasted to begin in late 2026, annual operating budget for Fire Stations No. 10 and 11 have been added to both 2026 and 2027.

Phase-in of Major Capital Prioritization Funding Plan - \$350,000 and \$330,000 Expenditure Increase

At the August 16, 2023 Governance and Priorities meeting the [Major Capital Funding Plan](#) was approved in principle. As mentioned in that report, amounts are required to be phased into budgets for 2026, 2027 and 2028 to support the projects within the plan. Administration will report further on updates to the Major Capital Funding Plan in the 3rd quarter of 2025

Saskatoon Light & Power (SL&P) Return on Investment (ROI) Phase Out - \$495,000 and \$495,000 Revenue Decrease

SL&P pays an ROI to the City. The reduction to the ROI paid to the City will allow SL&P to retain more of their self-generated revenue and help SL&P address its asset management priorities. Although this is a revenue decrease it is included within the expenditure section along with all other phase-ins and previous direction from City Council.

Fire Apparatus Reserve Phase-In - \$115,500 and \$115,500 Expenditure Increase

The inflationary impact on the replacement of Fire Apparatus has been significant in recent years with the cost to replace an Engine increasing from approximately \$900,000 prior to the pandemic to \$1,800,000 in 2024. To maintain the current replacement strategy of an 18-year apparatus useful life, additional funds are required.

Civic Building Comprehensive Maintenance Reserve (CBCM) Phase-In - \$402,900 and \$402,900 Expenditure Increase

The CBCM targets a funding contribution of 1.2% of building valuation each year, however the funding contribution was at 0.98% in 2021 and with increased inflation there have been significant increases in building maintenance costs. This resulted in

CBCM being funded at 0.85% in 2025 of building valuation. To work back towards the contribution rate of 0.98% from 2021 an increase is required for the CBCM contribution.

#### Roadways Preservation Phase-In - \$1,530,000 and \$1,530,000 Expenditure Increase

The City's road preservation and rehabilitation program target a 1 in 20-year treatment cycle or a target of 5% of the network annually. However, the program has faced significant inflationary impacts since 2023 resulting in additional funding required as currently the City has an average funding capacity of approximately 4% of network treatments (a 25-year cycle). The current phase-in along with the growth and inflation requests creates a plan of between 4.0-4.6% of the network receiving treatments each year, gradually working back towards the 1 in 20-year treatment cycle.

#### Snow and Ice Management Contingency Reserve - \$322,000 and \$322,000 Expenditure Increase

The Snow and Ice Management Contingency Reserve collects funds which can be used when the Snow and Ice Program expenditures exceed budget or to respond to major snow events. Due to the increasing costs, and frequency of major events, additional funds were previously directed at being allocated to build the reserve so that it can eventually support the costs of a 1 in 10-year storm. In 2025 an annual amount of \$830,700 is allocated to the Snow and Ice Management Contingency Reserve.

### **Civic Operating Budget Expenditures – Business Line Summaries**

In addition to the phase-ins and previous direction from City Council, the City is also faced with additional cost impacts such as:

- Annual inflationary costs such as the impacts of collective bargaining agreements, increased contractor costs and technology licenses; and
- Increases in expenditure due to growth. For example, as the City adds more kilometers of roadways, hectares of park space and population associated increases in maintenance and services are required.

While the City does its best to offset these rising costs through finding efficiencies and rethinking the way the City does work as evidenced in the City's annual report on [Service Savings and Sustainability](#) which found approximately \$5.4 million in savings and cost avoidances in 2024 alone; these are not enough to offset the inflationary and growth impacts the City has faced.

It is important to note that the amounts from the phase-ins and previous direction from City Council section mentioned above are included within the total dollars for each business line.

#### Arts Culture and Events Venues - \$95,000 and \$96,500 Expenditure Increase

Proposed expenditure increases of \$95,000 and \$96,500 have been added to the 2026 and 2027 forecasts for the City funded subsidy to the Remai Modern. This increase is

equivalent to an approximate 2% annual increase and is required to accommodate expenditures that are not offset by self-generated revenue.

#### Community Support - \$110,300 and \$668,000 Expenditure Increase

- Animal Services expenditures of \$42,500 and \$75,500, respectively are requested to cover costs for the Animal Services working group and Animal training program in 2026 and salary and payroll costs for collective bargaining increases in both years. 2027 also includes an inflationary increase for the Saskatoon Animal Control Agency contract.
- Cemeteries includes \$37,900 and \$40,600, respectively for salary and payroll costs for collective bargaining increases in both years, fuel reduction in 2026 and inflationary increases for utilities and materials and supplies.
- Community Development includes \$88,100 and \$60,400 respectively for salary and payroll costs for collective bargaining and increased water utility rates for both years.
- Community Investments and Supports includes a decrease of \$58,200 in 2026 and an increase of \$491,500 in 2027. There is a decrease of \$428,400 in property tax abatements due to abatements ending in 2026 and an increase in 2027 of \$219,800 for increases in the affordable housing incentives scheduled to begin. Inflationary increases for Meewasin, SREDA and Discover Saskatoon as well as program increases for Youth Sports Subsidy, Social and Cultural Grants are included for both years.

#### Corporate Asset Management - \$2,129,200 and \$3,721,500 Expenditure Increase

- City Accommodation includes increases of \$31,800 for increased external lease costs at Essex Plaza for Parking Services, who will also be exiting the lease and require the budget for their new office space at 154 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North. The 2027 increase of \$2,700, relates to an inflationary increase in maintenance costs at Civic Square East.
- Facilities Management includes an increase of \$1,247,100 and \$3,154,000, respectively.
  - Energy Management includes reductions in 2026 of \$790,500 due in large part to decreases in utilities for 2026 due to the removal of the Carbon Tax on natural gas and subsequent increases in utilities in 2027 of \$261,200.
  - These are offset by Facilities increases of \$1,723,600 and \$2,706,300 respectively are due to inflationary costs and additional phase-in to the Civic Buildings Comprehensive Maintenance Reserve (CBCM). Additional FTEs for the Facilities group are included in order to service Fire Hall 10 and 11 and other new civic facilities.
- Fleet Services includes an increase of \$850,300 and \$564,800, respectively, which includes FTEs for mechanics and a mechanics supervisor for the Saskatoon Police Service fleet due to growth of the fleet. Additional FTEs for wash bay attendants are included. An FTE is also included in 2027 for a specifications engineer, and a Civic



fleet mechanic also due to growth in the fleet. Inflationary increases are included for salary and payroll costs for collective bargaining increases in both years, equipment maintenance, repair parts and the provision to the Civic Vehicles and Equipment Replacement Reserve.

#### Corporate Governance and Finance - \$5,877,400 and \$5,894,800 Expenditure Increase

- Corporate Support includes \$4,275,700 and \$4,039,400, respectively due mostly to these major impacts:
  - \$400,000 for increased memory costs to store SAP data in 2026; and
  - The remainder of IT is increasing by \$2,933,500 and \$3,075,700, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, increased expenditures for contracts, Microsoft and ESRI and Graphical Information Systems (GIS) licenses, additional reserve transfers for items such as GIS replacement to account for increased costs and the continued phase-in to the SAP operating program to reduce the reliance on contributions from various operating capital reserves which have been supporting the program to date.
    - Included in this forecast is an additional 5.5 FTEs in 2026 and 6.0 in 2027 to support the various operational technology requirements as well as the City's cybersecurity program.
  - Other increases to areas such as Human Resources, Organization and Corporate Performance, Public Engagement and Communications, Race Relations, Reconciliation, Equity , Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) and Indigenous Initiatives are for salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, as well as FTEs for Enterprise Architects, Strategy Lead and Corporate Asset Management Data Coordinator within Organization and Corporate Performance over the two years, a WCB Specialist within HR in 2027 and a Public Engagement Consultant within Public Engagement in 2026.
- Assessment and Taxation includes \$149,600 and \$95,800, respectively, due to salary and payroll costs for collective bargaining increases in both years, inflationary increases for software and postage.
- City Clerk's Office includes \$216,800 and \$120,100 respectively due to salary and payroll costs for collective bargaining increases in both years, additional advertising costs for public notices, etc. and increases to the General Voting Reserve contributions due to expected increase in election costs.
- City Manager's Office includes \$40,400 and \$19,800, respectively due to salary and payroll costs for collective bargaining increases in both years.
- City Solicitor's Office includes a decrease of \$233,300 and an increase of \$86,200, respectively. In 2026 it is expected that the City's insurance costs will decrease. Both 2026 and 2027 include salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining.

- Legislative includes \$375,000 and \$64,400, respectively due to in part to increased travel, training and Communications and Constituency Relations Allowance as resolved at the [April 9, 2025](#) Governance and Priorities Committee in 2026. Additionally increased salary and payroll costs are also included for both years.
- Debt Servicing includes \$785,000 and \$730,000 respectively due to phased-in increases for the East Leisure Centre and the Major Capital Prioritization Funding Plan.
- Financial Services includes \$211,500 and \$108,900, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining in both years as well as one FTE requested in 2026 for dedicated financial support to Saskatoon Fire Services.
- General Services includes a decrease of \$1,101,000 and an increase of \$349,000 respectively, due to:
  - The decrease in 2026 is due to the removal of the global collective bargaining agreement amounts of \$2,059,000. These amounts were dispersed throughout other service lines now that many collective bargaining agreements have been settled.
  - In addition, the City is responsible for pension obligations on the old Police and Fire pension plans. Due to revised actuarial valuations, it is expected that the City's payments will need to increase an additional \$300,000 and \$100,000 respectively.
  - In 2026 \$121,100 is included to account for the City facilities that currently do not have appropriate budget for their appropriate Equivalent Runoff Units (ERU) as per the Storm Utility Bylaw.
  - In both 2026 and 2027 \$100,000 is added for payments to the Utility and Land programs for interest on their surplus funds.
  - Remaining changes include additional expenditures for the EI Premium Reduction Program due to actuals being less than budget as well as increases to the external auditor expenditures due to additional audit work related to revised accounting standards and contract increases.
- Revenue Services includes \$146,700 and \$61,100, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining as well as increased software licensing costs.
- Service Saskatoon has increased by \$611,000 and \$220,100, respectively due to additional resources required in 2026 and 2027 to support the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) program which includes two additional FTEs, software and contract costs. Both 2026 and 2027 include salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining.

#### Environmental Health - \$463,400 and \$661,800 Expenditure Increase

- Sustainability includes \$112,100 and \$75,700, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, additional communications and survey expenditures.

- Urban Biological Services includes \$26,000 and \$31,100, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining in both years and growth from additional hectares of parks space being added in 2027.
- Urban Forestry includes \$208,800 and \$208,500, respectively due to capital project operating impacts for additional trees planted, as well as \$4,300 phase-in regarding the Link project as mentioned above. Additionally a phase-in of \$78,000 to the Urban Forestry and Pest Management Capital Reserve is included to increase annual contributions to reach a maximum of \$1,000,000 as per the resolution from the [November 26, 2018](#) City Council Budget meeting. The current contribution to this reserve is \$589,500.
- Waste Handling Service includes \$88,100 and \$334,800, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining in both years, increased contribution to the Landfill Replacement reserve based on higher tonnages as well as FTEs for landfill attendants, labourers, Utility A and Engineering Tech positions.
- Waste Reduction includes \$28,400 and \$11,700, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining.

#### Recreation and Culture - \$1,417,800 and \$1,483,200 Expenditure Increase

- Albert Community Centre (ACC) includes \$5,100 and \$123,000, respectively due to inflationary increases in both years as well establishing a contribution to the CBCM reserve as the ACC will have met the minimum structural standards to become part of the CBCM program.
- Community Partnerships includes \$15,300 and \$17,500, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining.
- Forestry Farm Park and Zoo includes \$216,600 and \$126,600, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, an additional FTE for a zookeeper in 2026 to ensure Canadian Accredited Zoos and Aquariums standards and partial FTE in both years for a cashier receptionist to accept winter admissions.
- Indoor Rinks includes a decrease of \$60,900 and increase of \$50,900, respectively due to savings in salaries from position reclasses and savings in utilities in 2026 offset by increase of a partial Indoor Arena Operator Full Time Equivalent and salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining. In 2027 additional expenditures are required for salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining and increased utility costs.
- Leisure Centre Programs and Rentals increased by \$290,100 and \$321,600, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, capital project operations impacts for security monitoring and additional utility costs.
- Marketing Services increased by \$150,400 and \$20,200, respectively due to the addition of a Communications Consultant and salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining.
- Outdoor Pools decreased by \$44,800 and increased by \$24,400, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, reduction in utilities in 2026 and increased utilities in 2027.

- Outdoor Sports Fields increased by \$13,300 and \$49,100, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, increased contractor costs and increased utilities in both years.
- Parks Maintenance and Design increased by \$759,600 and \$701,200, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, increases to the Parks Infrastructure Reserve and phase-in regarding the Link project as mentioned above for \$21,200 and \$21,100, respectively as well as \$63,400 in 2026 for externally contracted cleanup of encampments.
- Playground and Recreation areas, Program Research and Design and Targeted Programming increased by a total of \$72,700 and \$48,300, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining and phone costs.

#### Saskatoon Fire - \$5,731,600 and \$4,668,600 Expenditure Increase

- Community Risk Reduction increased by \$438,400 and \$178,500, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining.
- Emergency Management increased by \$273,100 and \$44,700, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining and the addition of an EMO Coordinator position in 2026.
- Fire Services increased by \$5,020,100 and \$4,445,400, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, an additional Fire Service Instructor in each year and a Maintenance Technician in 2026. Also, phase-in's of the Fire Apparatus Reserve and New Fire Station expenditures including additional firefighters to staff the new stations as mentioned at the beginning of this appendix are included in both years.

#### Transportation - \$13,473,700 and \$12,446,500 Expenditure Increase

- Access Transit increased by \$237,000 and \$211,300, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, a partial FTE increase in each year for an Access Operator and additional reserve contribution for inflationary increases for Access Transit buses.
- Bridges, Subways and Overpasses increased by \$338,900 and \$317,400, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, additional transfer to the Bridge Major Repair Reserve due to growth and inflationary costs, inflationary costs for the operating and maintenance of the bridges under the P3 contract, additional costs for encampment maintenance, and growth and inflationary costs for bridge inspections, graffiti removal and other maintenance costs.
- Engineering increased by \$138,400 and \$53,100, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, and increased lease costs for additional space and utility and trailer rental.
- Parking increased by \$304,300 and \$155,400, respectively due to new technology licensing fees, line painting, utility and commissionaire expenditures, as well as salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining.

- Road Maintenance increased by \$5,081,800 and \$4,558,600, respectively due in large part to the increased phase-in as well as growth and inflation for the transfer to the Paved Roadways Reserve and the Transportation Infrastructure Reserve in the amount of \$3,851,400 and \$3,675,900, respectively. Additional FTEs for various positions such as GIS Analyst, Superintendent, Corporate Fuel Management Administrator, Utility B, Engineering Technician, Supervisors and Customer Support Coordinators are included among both years and are shared among other Transportation service lines. Other additional expenditures include salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, inflationary costs to materials and supplies and encampment response expenditures.
- Snow and Ice Management increased by \$2,173,900 and \$1,476,200, respectively due to phase-in regarding the Link project as mentioned above of \$381,800 and \$381,700, respectively, salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, additional FTEs for labourers, and operations engineer, additional funds of \$500,000 in 2026 to help build towards a 6<sup>th</sup> snow event, phase-in of \$322,000 in each year towards the Snow and Ice Management Contingency reserve, and inflationary increases to contractor services.
- Street Cleaning and Sweeping increased by \$246,300 and \$129,200, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, increased costs for the shared FTEs as listed in Road Maintenance, and inflationary increases to materials supplies, contractor services and the contribution to the Street Cleaning/ Sweeping Equipment Acquisition Reserve.
- Street Lighting increased by \$522,300 and \$476,800, respectively due to phased-in operating for the Link program of \$70,000 in each year, salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, inflationary and growth increases for new street lighting installations as well as utility increases.
- Transit Operations increased by \$3,802,300 and \$4,723,000, respectively due in large part to the phase-in regarding the Link project as mentioned above of \$2,930,600 and \$2,930,700, respectively, and reduction of fuel costs of \$1,000,000 (\$0.20 reduction per litre) in 2026 which is held here for this report but will be allocated to other service lines when the budget book is produced. Growth for extending transit service into Evergreen in 2026 and Aspen Ridge in 2027 are also included. Additional expenditures include salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, inflationary costs for uniforms, advertising and software expenditures and the operating and maintenance of the Civic Operations Centre under the P3 contract, as well as additional FTEs for operators and building resource capacity in both years.
- Transportation Services increased by \$628,500 and \$345,500, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, the phase-in regarding the Link project as mentioned above of \$6,900 in each year, increased transfer to the Dedicated Roadways Reserve due to additional boulevard lease revenue, increased materials and supplies costs and additional transfer to the Active Transportation Reserve for network growth and inflation.

#### Urban Planning and Development - \$144,500 and \$296,000 Expenditure Increase

- Attainable Housing increased by \$69,100 and \$11,500, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, training and membership cost increases partially offset by increased staffing cost recovery from the Affordable Housing Reserve.
- Business Improvement Districts (BID) increased by \$6,900 and \$7,100, respectively due to an inflationary increase to the BID's operating grant.
- Bylaw compliance increased by \$129,200 and \$70,300, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, additional Customer Service Representative and Bylaw Inspector increase in hours from part-time to full-time.
- Development Review increased by \$62,700 and \$160,900, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining and an additional Planner position in 2027. Increases are partially offset with funding from the Planning Levy.
- Long Range Planning increased by \$16,500 and \$12,700, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining which are partially offset with funding from the Planning Levy.
- Neighbourhood Planning increase by \$24,700 and \$21,100, respectively due mostly to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining.
- Planning Project Services decreased by \$29,200 in 2026 and increased by \$14,600 in 2027, due mostly to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining.
- Regional Planning increased by \$31,100 and \$17,600, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining in both years and an increase to the Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth (P4G) operating grant.
- Research and Mapping increased by \$52,500 and \$18,200, respectively due to salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining and a reduction in expected cost recovery in 2026 from reduced internal printing.
- Urban Design decreased by \$219,000 and \$38,000, respectively due to a decreased transfer to the Streetscape Reserve from reduced parking revenues partially offset by salary and payroll costs increases for collective bargaining, and utility increases.

#### Taxation and General Revenues – \$476,000 and \$495,000 expenditure increase

- There is a decrease in 2026 for a base budget adjustment of \$19,000 to the annual annexation budget which is higher than the actual expenditures.
- The phase-out of \$495,000 ROI paid from SL&P as mentioned above is included in both years.

**2026 and 2027 Saskatoon Police Service Projections**

The Saskatoon Police Service is expecting revenue increases of \$395,300 in 2026 and \$2,005,100 in 2027 mainly due to increased provincial funding from the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Program.

The Saskatoon Police Service is expecting expenditure increases of \$13,948,700 in 2026. \$4,700,000 of the 2026 budget request relates to an arbitrated salary settlement for the Saskatoon Police Association for 2023 to 2025. The remaining \$9,248,700 funding requirement in 2026 and \$11,205,200 funding requirement in 2027 relate to resources required to address increased service call volumes.

**Link Operating Phase-In****Project Description**

As Saskatoon grows to 500,000 people, it will require a variety of transportation options to provide the safe and efficient movement of people and goods throughout the City. Given this objective, the Growth Plan includes a specific Transit Plan that aims to redefine public transit in Saskatoon. The Transit Plan focuses on building a Bus Rapid Transit (Link) system and a local bus network to support it. The current transit system is focused on service coverage. The Administration has identified changes required to support high-frequency, direct service along the major corridors alongside a redesigned local bus network.

The Link Capital project is being built by using funding approved under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) program along with the City of Saskatoon's contributions. As the final designs are completed, the operating costs associated with this project and associated local bus network are being finalized. Due to the fact this project has significant impacts on improved capacity and reliability of the public transit system, Administration is recommending a three-year operating phase-in approach beginning with the 2026 and 2027 Multi-Year Business Plan and Budget to fully operationalize the Link system in 2028.

**2026 and 2027 Preliminary Budget Requests**

Within the 2026 and 2027 preliminary budget request Administration is recommending \$3.5 million be added in 2026 and \$3.5 million be added in 2027. As the Link service will not be operational until 2028, phase-in funds will be used in the funding plan to help fund the Link capital project costs. It is anticipated that some operational costs, such as snow and ice maintenance, will be required on College Drive and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue prior to 2028 as construction is completed in phases. Once Link is operational, the funds will be used for full operations of the newly redesigned transit service. It is expected that an additional increment will be needed in 2028 for the full costs of the service including all ongoing maintenance of the Link corridors, stations and local bus network.

Once operational, the phased-in funds will be used largely to address the proposed 20% increase in service hours required for the system. The proposed 20% service increase reflects:

1. The costs of operating three Link bus rapid transit lines at appropriate service levels;
2. Accommodating population growth and modest citywide enhancements aligning with long-term growth plans and Saskatoon Transit's service standards;
3. Addressing overloads and improving service reliability (on-time performance);
4. Providing additional service to developing communities where full service is not currently provided; and,



5. Realizing efficiencies through optimizations in the existing work which offset a portion of the costs.

To achieve this, additional investment in the following areas will be required:

1. Salary costs and FTEs for Transit Operators, Supervisors, Maintenance, Body Shop, Stores and Information Technology (IT) employees;
2. Additional allocations to the Transit Vehicle Replacement Reserve;
3. Salary costs and FTEs for additional Fire Community Support Workers;
4. Additional snow and ice maintenance;
5. Signage, pavement marking, and signal repair and replacement;
6. Fuel, parts and equipment maintenance;
7. Security cameras and electrical, IT and communication requirements; and
8. Maintenance of medians, flowerpots, shrubs and trees.

Further planning and design work is underway (i.e. redesign of the local bus network, review of service levels, and detailed design of the Link corridors and stations) that will refine the service level requirements and associated operating costs. Future reporting will be presented to City Council prior to the 2028 operationalization of the Link System which will outline in more detail the anticipated needs and potential options.

# City of Saskatoon's Response to Homelessness

## ISSUE

The number of people experiencing homelessness in Saskatoon has increased significantly in recent years. The City of Saskatoon traditionally plays a convening role in efforts to address homelessness through involvement in both City of Saskatoon-led and community-led working groups and committees, as well as through advocacy, strategy development and programming. Multiple civic departments are also impacted by increased responses and unbudgeted operational pressures.

## BACKGROUND

While the specific jurisdiction for responding to homelessness is shared between the Government of Canada (Federal Government) and the Government of Saskatchewan (Province), the impacts of homelessness are being felt directly at the municipal level. Addressing the complexities of homelessness requires collaboration across all levels of government and with community partners.

The City of Saskatoon (City) has previously presented several related reports that inform this conversation:

- May 24, 2022 - [Housing Continuum: Information Regarding Shelters and Affordable Housing Inventory in Saskatoon](#)
- May 24, 2022 – [Community Response to Downtown Safety and Well-Being](#)
- December 6, 2022 – [Saskatoon Extreme Cold Weather Emergency Response Plan](#)
- October 11, 2023 – [Proposed Roles and Next Steps for the City of Saskatoon Regarding Shelters for People Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- May 15, 2024 – [Saskatoon Police Service – Current State to Future State - Community Policing to Community Governance](#)
- May 29, 2024 - [Expansion of Access to Public Washrooms and Drinking Water](#)
- November 27, 2024 – [Winter Navigation and Warming Centres Update](#)
- December 12, 2024 – [Proposed Community Encampment Response Plan](#)
- March 26, 2025 – [Potential Roles and Responsibilities for the City of Saskatoon – Saskatoon Homelessness Action Plan](#)
- March 26, 2025 – [Terms of Reference – Council Subcommittee on Homelessness](#)
- April 9, 2025 – [Shelter Status Update](#)

Additionally, the City has made significant investments in affordable housing through incentives and the sale of City-owned land to support the development of new affordable housing units.

## **CURRENT STATUS**

The 2024 Point-in-Time Count, conducted on October 8, 2024, recorded 1,499 individuals experiencing homelessness in Saskatoon. This total includes 315 children and 175 youth. Among those surveyed, 81% identified as Indigenous.

Historically, the City has taken on a coordinating and supportive role in community efforts to address homelessness. However, the sharp rise in the number of people experiencing homelessness has required the City to take on a broader role, including more responses to encampments, safety concerns and other social challenges tied to homelessness.

Like many other Canadian municipalities, the City is facing financial limitations that impact its ability to respond to homelessness. While recent measures such as the opening of the temporary shelter on Pacific Avenue are steps forward, the number of people becoming homeless continues to grow faster than housing solutions can be made available. There remains a shortage of appropriate housing and supports for individuals with complex needs and those experiencing chronic homelessness.

In addition to delivering the City's Affordable Housing Program, the City is also responsible for ensuring that public spaces remain safe and accessible for everyone.

## **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

### Strategic Programs and Solutions

The City approaches homelessness with a strategic lens – engaging in advocacy, participation in both City-led and community-led working groups and committees and the supporting initiatives that aim to prevent homelessness. This work is carried out across multiple departments and includes:

- Providing grants and tax abatements to community organizations;
- Supporting low- and no-cost access to Leisure Centres;
- Offering Indigenous youth programming at no cost;
- Partnership with the White Buffalo Youth Lodge; and
- Assisting low-income residents to improve access to essential services.

The City is also involved in implementing initiatives focused on long-term systems to reduce homelessness:

- Development of a Community Safety and Wellbeing framework;
- Developing a new Affordable Housing Strategy;
- Supporting delivery of several Rapid Housing Initiative projects;
- Administering the Housing Accelerator Fund Incentives, including:
  - Affordable Housing Incentives; and
  - City-Owned Land Initiative;
- Working with partners to conduct the annual Point-in-Time Count;

- Collaborating on the development of the new Saskatoon Homelessness Action Plan;
- Conducting a Housing Needs Assessment;
- Building internal capacity; and
- Implementing the City's Community Encampment Response Plan.

More information regarding ongoing and future initiatives is provided in Appendix 1.

### Emergency Responses to Homelessness

The City's emergency response efforts to homelessness are centered on ensuring the safety and well-being of people experiencing homelessness. These efforts, coordinated across several departments, are primarily focused on addressing immediate and visible issues connected to homelessness, such as:

- Encampment clean-up and response;
- Responding to individuals and communities impacted by homelessness and the overdose crisis;
- Addressing community safety concerns in shared and public spaces; and
- Activating emergency responses during extreme weather or other urgent situations.

The City also works with community partners to improve basic living conditions of those experiencing homelessness. This includes needs-based initiatives such as coordination efforts around warming centres, expansion of drinking water access, the 2024 pilot navigation hub project (sometimes referred to as the pilot washroom project) and others.

Planning beyond immediate needs has involved engaging with a variety of community partners and includes, but is not limited to, work with partners to develop the Saskatoon Homelessness Action Plan (SHAP). Roles for the City through this plan will be brought forward to the Governance and Priorities Committee, or Council, in June, as the overall plan continues to be finalized with partners.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The City has begun tracking expenditures related to homelessness and have identified service level impacts due to the response to homelessness, but do not have detailed cost tracking at this time. Administration is currently gathering information to summarize both operating and capital costs associated with the City's response to homelessness, with the aim of identifying the total cost of activities that are currently unfunded across all departments.

One example of service level impact was the cost of encampment cleanups. The estimated total cost in 2024 for encampment cleanups was approximately \$600,000. These cleanups typically require significant staff time from Fire Bylaw Inspectors, who engage directly with individuals living in encampments, in addition to costs associated

with the cleanup and debris removal. This estimate does not account for the time inspectors are pulled away from other duties in their regular workplans.

Encampment cleanup efforts affect multiple departments. Staff from Parks Department are often called upon to remove debris or hire contractors to assist with cleanups. The Roadways Department is also impacted, handling the removal of materials from roadways, walkways and pedestrian tunnels. These activities frequently exceed the funding allocated for standard service levels.

A preliminary cost estimate covering various departmental efforts related to encampment cleanup is provided in Appendix 2. Administration continues to work on developing a more detailed and consistent approach to tracking homelessness-related costs across all City departments. A summary of service level impacts, with some known data, across other City departments is included within Appendix 3.

### **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no privacy, legal, social or environmental implications.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Administration will continue to provide regular updates to City Council, including progress on key initiatives, the City's changing role in responding to homelessness and any related funding considerations. As part of preparations for the upcoming budget cycle, work is underway on a 2026/2027 Business Plan and Budget Option that will outline financial pressures, staffing needs and impact on service levels connected to the City's homelessness response.

Addressing homelessness will require a coordinated and collaborative approach. This includes ongoing cooperation between City departments and continued partnerships with the Province, Indigenous organizations and community organizations.

### **APPENDICES**

1. Current and Ongoing Actions related to Homelessness
2. City of Saskatoon Cost Impact Tracker - Encampment Cleanups, 2024
3. City of Saskatoon – Service Level Impacts Due to Homelessness

### **REPORT APPROVAL**

Written by: Ian Williamson, Senior Project Planner  
Reviewed by: Lesley Anderson, Director of Planning and Development  
Doug Wegren, Fire Chief, Saskatoon Fire  
Celene Anger, General Manager, Community Services  
Approved by: Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

SP/2025/PD/GPC/City of Saskatoon's Response to Homelessness/gs

## Current and Ongoing Actions Related to Homelessness

### The City is leading actions in the following:

#### Access to Water:

- Identifying locations for installation of water stations and coordinating water bottle distribution among community partners.

#### Public Washrooms:

- Coordinated site, funding and operational logistics with operating partners for public washroom access in Pleasant Hill/Riversdale.
- Providing secured monitoring at North Kiwanis washroom during operating hours.
- Investigating further partnerships and funding opportunities to support additional access to washroom facilities.

#### Homelessness Point-in-Time (PiT) Count:

- Coordination of annual PiT Counts in conjunction with community partners.

#### Encampments:

- Continuing to work directly with residents of encampments to connect them to services through the Saskatoon Fire Department's (SFD) Community Risk Reduction Team.
- Providing clean-up services in parks, roadways and other public spaces to ensure public spaces are maintained and safe for everyone.

#### Overnight Warming Centres and Navigation Centres:

- Coordinated locations, partners, and funding for 2024/25 overnight warming needs and working towards 2025/2026 facilities.
- Providing ongoing project management and financial monitoring assistance.
- Working with Province of Saskatchewan to pursue a drop-in centre (or centres) to provide day-to-day services.

#### Coordinated Public Safety Response:

- Coordinating public safety responses with SFD and Saskatoon Police Service in hotspots and corridors throughout the city.

#### Housing:

- Completion of the new Affordable Housing Strategy to align the City's role in housing with identified strategic priorities, current trends, local housing needs and Provincial and Federal programs and responsibilities.
- Completion of the Housing Needs Assessment to better understand housing requirements of Saskatoon's most vulnerable residents and the entire housing spectrum.

- Administering incentive programs to support the creation of new affordable housing units across the city.
- Identifying strategic city-owned land parcels for the development of affordable housing and projects aimed at social community impact.

#### Community Encampment Response Plan:

- Coordinating and implementing the development of new supportive housing units and community space that can be used for warming/cooling.
- Completing a feasibility study to advance options for community navigation hubs.

#### Communications Related to Homelessness:

- Developing and providing information to residents and stakeholders on various activities related to the City's response to homelessness.
- Responding to concerns and requests related to public space, loitering, etc.

### **The City collaborates and supports others through the following:**

#### Shelters:

- Ongoing work with the Province of Saskatchewan in addressing operational and security issues at the temporary Pacific Avenue shelter.
- Leading the identification and analysis of potential site location(s) for a new Provincial permanent shelter.
- Coordinating public safety responses to shelter locations among agencies including Saskatoon Police Service, SFD Inspectors and Community Support, and Commissionaires.

#### Community Partnerships:

- Participating at the Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Board of Directors and Community Advisory Board to support community action on supportive housing and social serving agencies. SHIP is the Community Entity for the Government of Canada's Reaching Home program in Saskatoon.
- Participating on the Executive Council of the Saskatoon Homelessness Action Plan, overseeing the governance and development of an updated Action Plan for the community.
- Participating at the governance table for Coordinated Access, led by Métis Nation Saskatchewan, which is working towards a coordinated and consistent intake process for accessing housing-related supports in the community.
- Advancing work with community partners, Indigenous, Federal and Provincial governments to respond to the housing and support needs of people experiencing homelessness.

Housing:

- Working with applicants to advance new proposals for community facilities and supportive housing.

Extreme Weather Strategy:

- Collaborating with community-based agencies to develop operational plans for hot and cold weather.

Provincial Emergency Operations Centre:

- Supporting data sharing among municipalities and Provincial departments.

Advocacy:

- Advocating to Provincial and Federal governments for additional funding and supports for homelessness and housing solutions.
- Advocating to the Province for operational funding for a 24/7 drop-in centre and public washroom facilities.



## City of Saskatoon Cost Impact Tracker – Encampment Cleanups, 2024

### Encampment Response

Number of Encampments	1,255
-----------------------	-------

Department/Activity	Cost
Fire Bylaw - Encampment Response (Staff Interaction)	\$334,000
Saskatoon Fire – Response to fires at encampments	\$ 83,000
Parks – Staff Costs Encampment Clean Ups (Zone 1 Only)	\$ 11,000
Parks – External Contracts for Encampment Cleanups	\$ 48,000
Roadways – Encampment Cleanups (streets, walkways, tunnels)	\$123,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$599,000</b>

## Appendix 3

### City of Saskatoon - Service Level Impacts Due to Homelessness

Department	Activity	Service Level Impact
Saskatoon Fire	Interactions with Inadequately Housed Individuals (Encampments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire Bylaw Inspector(s) wage and time commitment</li> </ul>
	Inspection of Shelters and responding to incidents occurring at Shelters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire Bylaw Inspector(s) wage and time commitment</li> <li>Apparatus response hours</li> </ul>
	Overdose incident response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apparatus response hours</li> </ul>
	Encampment, Dumpster, Vehicle, Outdoor Fires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apparatus response hours</li> <li>Fire inspector investigation rate</li> </ul>
Saskatoon Transit	Operational Disruptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased cleaning services due to garbage accumulation on buses and in bus stops</li> <li>Bus delays and changeovers due to disturbances on board buses</li> <li>Pedestrian and rider opinions on safety and comfort</li> </ul>
Parks	Encampment Cleanups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cleanup by Parks maintenance staff</li> <li>External contractors for large clean up jobs</li> </ul>
Roadways	Encampment Cleanups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cleanup by Roadways crews for encampment materials within roadways, walkways and in pedestrian tunnels</li> </ul>
Recreation and Community Development	Leisure Centre Disruptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Security and safety issues</li> <li>Lockdowns due to safety issues affecting programming</li> </ul>
Transportation and Construction	Security and Access Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional security fencing measures to prevent access to bridge structures</li> </ul>
Communications and Public Engagement	Communication Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications/PSA's about responses, shelter locations, overdoses, safety etc. related to homelessness</li> </ul>
Planning and Development	Safety Audits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased requests for safety audits and reviews</li> </ul>
	Reporting and Shelter Site Search	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparing reports and participating in Provincial site search</li> </ul>
	Urban Design – Business Improvement Districts Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requests for street furniture removals and public realm changes</li> <li>Increased maintenance and vandalism within BID areas</li> </ul>
Facilities	City-owned Washrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Washroom closures/maintenance for vandalism, social behaviour, eviction incidents</li> </ul>
Saskatoon Land	Shelter Site Search	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participating in Provincial Site Search; preparing lease and/or purchase agreements, etc. as needed.</li> </ul>

## Walter, Penny

---

**Subject:** FW: Request to Speak - Paul Hemsing - Homelessness Downtown and Surrounding Areas

---

**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2025 8:19 AM

**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Subject:** Request to Speak - Paul Hemsing - Homelessness Downtown and Surrounding Areas

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED]

Submitted on Thursday, May 29, 2025 - 08:14

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Thursday, May 29, 2025

**To:** Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** He/him/his

**First Name:** Paul

**Last Name:** Hemsing

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] 2nd Ave S

**Ward:** Ward 6

**Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):** All downtown and riversdale residents and businesses

**What do you wish to do ?:** Request to Speak

**If speaking will you be attending in person or remotely:** In person

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** First available council meeting

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** The impact on businesses and residents of downtown and surrounding areas by allowing homelessness and drug use to be prominently shown where we live and work.

**Comments:**

I will be presenting a power point presentation with pictures and short videos

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

## Walter, Penny

---

**Subject:** FW: Request to Speak - Shawna Nelson - CoS Response to Homelessness

---

**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Sent:** Friday, June 6, 2025 10:41 AM

**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Subject:** Request to Speak - Shawna Nelson - CoS Response to Homelessness

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Friday, June 6, 2025 - 10:40

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Friday, June 06, 2025

**To:** Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Shawna

**Last Name:** Nelson

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] 3rd Ave S

**Ward:** Ward 6

**Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):** Downtown Saskatoon Business Improvement District

**What do you wish to do ?:** Request to Speak

**If speaking will you be attending in person or remotely:** In person

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** Governance and Priorities

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** CoS Response to Homelessness

**Comments:**

Representing DTNYXE perspective on much needed services for the unhoused, in addition, to critical services required for our business community.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

## Walter, Penny

---

**Subject:** FW: Request to Speak - Daryl Brown - City of Saskatoon's Response to Homelessness

---

**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Sent:** Friday, June 6, 2025 1:22 PM

**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>

**Subject:** Request to Speak - Daryl Brown - City of Saskatoon's Response to Homelessness

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Friday, June 6, 2025 - 13:21

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Friday, June 06, 2025

**To:** Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Daryl

**Last Name:** Brown

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] 20th St W

**Ward:** Ward 2

**Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):** Phoenix Starter Alternator Repair

**What do you wish to do ?:** Request to Speak

**If speaking will you be attending in person or remotely:** In person

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):** June 11 2025

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** City of Saskatoon's Response to Homelessness and an effort to mobilize the business community in Downtown and Riversdale

**Comments:**

I would like to speak in reference to Saskatoon's Response to Homelessness and Addictions.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No



# Access to Public Washrooms and Drinking Water – Summer 2025

## ISSUE

On May 21, 2025, City council resolved to provide funding to operationalize the 2025 Pleasant Hill outdoor washroom facility. This report provides an update on the operational plan the Administration and community partners have developed. The washroom and shower site in Pleasant Hill is planned to open on June 15, 2025, and operate through to October 31, 2025. The City's funding will only operate the washrooms until the end of September. However, due to the urgent need for the facility, community partners requested it open as soon as appropriate staffing could be in place, while additional funding sources to cover the full time period to October 31, 2025, and navigation services, continue to be explored.

## BACKGROUND

The Standing Policy Committee on Planning Development and Community Services, at its [meeting](#) on June 7, 2023, received a report regarding Public Drinking Water Access. This report included a review of publicly available water in Saskatoon and advised that Saskatoon Emergency Management Organization received funding through the Government of Canada's Reaching Home Program for a pilot project to provide bottled water distribution, misting tents and a water bottle filling station, in partnership with the Westside Community Clinic.

City Council, at its Regular Business [meeting](#) on June 28, 2023, received a report regarding the Public Washroom Navigator Program Pilot and resolved:

“That the Scope of the Public Washroom Navigator Program Pilot be broadened to accommodate complementary uses which includes funding projects that address priority issues related to overall community wellbeing.”

City Council, at its Regular Business [meeting](#) on May 29, 2024, received a report regarding Expansion of Access to Public Washrooms and Drinking Water and resolved:

“That the Administration proceed with the three options described in this report including

1. Option 4 – Contracted staffed purchased, used washroom trailer;
2. Option 6 – Pilot project for one contracted staffed Riverbank Public Washroom;
3. Option 7 - Additional drinking water; and
4. \$702,400 be allocated from the Reserve for Capital Expenditures to Capital Project 2652 to enact these options.”

City Council, at its Regular Business [meeting](#) on May 29, 2024, also resolved, in part:

“That the Administration report back for the 2025 budget deliberations with proposed investment for City-led ongoing provision of 24/7 washrooms in the Pleasant Hill/Riversdale area including a transition to 365 days of operation.”

City Council, at its 2025 Preliminary Business Plan and Budget [meeting](#) on December 2, 2024, received a report regarding Expansion of Access to Public Washrooms and Drinking Water – Report Back Items, and resolved:

“That Approach 4: Exploring partnerships and options to expand public washroom options in the Pleasant Hill and Riversdale areas as outlined in the report, be approved.”

City Council, at its Regular Business [meeting](#) on January 29, 2025, resolved:

“That the December 2, 2024 resolution of Council “*That Approach 4: Exploring partnerships and options to expand public washroom options in the Pleasant Hill and Riversdale areas as outlined in the report, be approved*” be rescinded, with the following motions then made in place:

1. That Approach 4: Exploring partnerships and options to expand public washroom options in the Pleasant Hill and Riversdale areas as outlined in the report, be approved;
2. That an extension of the existing pilot of supervision at North Kiwanis be approved as per the December 2, 2024 report, to December 31, 2025 at a cost of \$239,000, with funding to come from the Reserve for Capital Expenditures; and
3. That reporting be brought forward for consideration as part of the 2026/27 budget regarding options for public washrooms as contained and updated from the December 2, 2024 report”.

City Council, at its Regular Business [meeting](#) on May 21, 2025, resolved:

“That the City of Saskatoon provide funding in the amount of what is unspent in the capital project that was used for public washroom project in 2024, to operationalize the 2025 Pleasant Hill outdoor washroom facilities, and that Administration and partners continue to seek funding for navigation services.”

## **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

### 2024 Central Urban Métis Federation Inc. Washroom Pilot Site

The piloted washroom trailer was located at the Central Urban Métis Federation Inc. (CUMFI) office, at 315 Avenue M South. It operated from August 27, 2024, to October 31, 2024 and was accessed over 14,304 times by people of all ages.

There were no incidents of vandalism or significant damage throughout the pilot, due to the site being staffed 24/7 by Saskatoon Tribal Council’s Sawēyihotān Outreach and Peacekeepers. Their presence created a safe and welcoming place for people to use

the washroom, clean their clothes, and bathe. The Sawēyhtotān Outreach team also provided navigation services for anyone looking for help, shelter and stability. They tracked visitor data, which identified that young children and youth also used the washroom, spent time with Peacekeepers and considered this site a safe place in the community.

Community support for this washroom approach was also significant, including:

- The Friendship Inn provided sandwiches daily for residents using the washroom;
- Large donations of toilet paper and feminine hygiene products were received; and
- Saskatoon Fire Department approving an ongoing fire pit to help people stay warm through the evening.

#### 2025 Proposed CUMFI Outdoor Navigation Hub

The number of residents experiencing homelessness continues to rise across the city. The lack of access to services and resources is creating significant risk for the safety and well-being of these residents. With the closure of the two overnight warming locations on March 31, 2025, there are currently no public washrooms available in the Riversdale and Pleasant Hill neighbourhoods between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

In response to increasing need and building on the success and community support for the 2024 CUMFI washroom pilot project, Administration has been working with Sawēyhtotān and CUMFI to establish similar operations and outreach supports this year. Both partners have confirmed their participation and interest in supporting the project this year.

An addition for this year is a donated trailer modified to include a shower stall and sink, secured by CUMFI.

City Council, at its Regular Business meeting on May 21, 2025, approved funding in the amount that is unspent in the capital project (\$230,000), for the operation of the public washrooms that can begin once appropriate staffing is secured by partners. A breakdown of the washroom site costs is provided in Appendix 1. Funding for the navigation services at the site is not yet secured and will continue to be sought from other sources.

#### Access to Drinking Water

The City provides water fountains and/or water bottle filling stations at parks and civic facilities across the city. Since 2023, the City has provided two water bottle filling stations located at:

- Westside Community Clinic, 1528 20<sup>th</sup> Street West; and
- Sawēyhtotān Supportive Family Housing - Kotawān I & II, 219 Avenue K South

The City has also coordinated community partners to distribute water bottles to individuals experiencing homelessness as part of their ongoing operations throughout the summer.

At a Special City Council meeting in June 2025, City Council will consider a report to fund \$35,000 from the Response to Homelessness Capital Project, to be used for water bottle distribution in 2025. This will allow for approximately 5,000 bottles per week over 12 weeks to be distributed to community partners.

#### Long-term Strategy for Public Washroom Facilities

A coordinated public washroom strategy for City operated washrooms is being developed to improve access to clean, safe, and inclusive facilities across Saskatoon. This strategy will assess existing City washrooms to identify opportunities for:

- Staff or supervised locations;
- Security enhancements or checks to prevent closures due to vandalism and damage; and
- Gaps in geographic coverage that may require additional facilities.

The goal is to ensure all residents, particularly those who are most vulnerable and require more frequent access to washrooms, such as pregnant women, children and elderly people, have consistent and equitable access to essential facilities. Current data from the staffed North Kiwanis washroom pilot indicate that staffed locations have significantly reduced incidents of vandalism and misuse, ensuring the washrooms remain open more consistently for the public.

A report on the long-term strategy will be brought forward later in 2025.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The operation of the CUMFI Public Washroom site is expected to run from June 15, 2025, to October 31, 2025. The City has provided \$230,000 in funding to support the operating and security costs. This will enable the washroom to operate only until September 30, 2025, with a reduced staff from last year. Additional funding support is required to extend the operations until the end of the October as well as provide the desired navigation supports at the site. The objective is to keep the washroom open until another washroom facility becomes available November 1, 2025, as part of the winter warming strategy.

Should additional funding become available, or unspent funding remains by September 30, 2025, Administration would extend the operation of the public washroom facility until October 31, 2025 or until the available funding permits.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

Administration will continue to work with CUMFI and the Saskatoon Tribal Council's Sawēiyhtotān program to operationalize the washroom site and seek other funding partners for the navigation services. Administration will also proceed with the distribution of bottled water to community partners and is preparing a city-wide public washroom strategy, which will include options for the ongoing operation of public washrooms, including the potential for future use of the washroom trailer. A report will be brought forward later in 2025 on this strategy and options will be brought forward for consideration as part of the 2026/2027 Business Plan and Budget Deliberations.

## **APPENDICES**

1. 2025 Pleasant Hill Public Washroom Cost Estimate

## **REPORT APPROVAL**

Written by: Ian Williamson, Senior Project Planner  
Reviewed by: Michelle Beveridge, Strategic Partnerships and Project Advisor  
Lesley Anderson, Director of Planning and Development  
Approved by: Celene Anger, General Manager, Community Services

SP/2025/PD/MPC/Access to Public Washrooms and Drinking Water – Summer 2025/mt

## 2025 Pleasant Hill Public Washroom Cost Estimate

Expenses	Unit Cost	Weekly Rate	Weekly Cost	Monthly Cost	Assumption
Maintenance/Service of Washroom Unit					
Septic and Water Services	\$ 500	4	\$ 2,000	\$ 10,000	4 dumping services per week
Cleaning Services	\$ 160	7	\$ 1,120	\$ 5,600	\$160/day
Contingency for Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 500	1	\$ 500	\$ 2,500	Emergency plumbing, biohazard cleaning, repairs
<b>Maintenance/Service Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 3,620</b>	<b>\$ 18,100</b>	
Staffing					
2 Outreach Staff - 24/7					Unfunded – seeking additional funding support
2 Peacekeepers - 24/7	\$10,000	1	\$ 10,000	\$ 50,000	
<b>Staffing Subtotal</b>			<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>	
Expenses to CUMFI					
Electricity/Water	\$ 50	7	\$ 350	\$ 1,750	Hook-up to CUMFI office
Use of Staff Trailer/Supplies	\$ 30	7	\$ 210	\$ 1,050	Use of CUMFI staff trailer for supplies and outreach
<b>Expenses to CUMFI Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 560</b>	<b>\$ 2,800</b>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>			<b>\$14,180</b>	<b>\$ 70,900</b>	



May 26, 2025

Mayor Cynthia Block  
Office of the Mayor

Members of City Council  
c/o City Clerk's Office

City of Saskatoon  
222 Third Avenue North  
Saskatoon SK S7K 0J5

Your Worship and Councillors:


**Re: Letter of Support – Extension of CUMFI Public Washroom Pilot Project**

I am writing you in support of extending the CUMFI public washroom pilot project for summer and fall of 2025. The project clearly demonstrated successes in its short operating time from August 27, 2024 to October 31, 2024, filling the much-needed gap of access to a washroom facility, particularly for our marginalized, vulnerable population in the Pleasant Hill and Riversdale neighborhoods.

In working with our partners in the community, we have come to know that during the 2024 operating timeline, the CUMFI washroom site had, at times, over three hundred visitors in a day. There were no incidents of vandalism or damage in this period, due to the site being staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by the Saskatoon Tribal Council Saweyhitotan Outreach and Peacekeepers. Outreach staff and Peacekeepers created a safe place for people to come and have a sense of belonging, while being treated with dignity and respect. Saweyhitotan also provided outreach and navigation supports making this site much more than a washroom.

The CUMFI public washroom project is urgently needed as a critical resource for the Pleasant Hill and Riversdale neighborhoods and the Saskatoon Police Service fully supports the extension of the initiative.

Yours truly,

  
Cameron McBride, M.O.M.  
Chief of Police  
/ds

# Research Junction Program Update 2025

## ISSUE

This report provides an update on the City of Saskatoon/University of Saskatchewan Research Junction program.

## BACKGROUND

In 2019, the City of Saskatoon (City) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Saskatchewan (USask). One of the main articles in this agreement is a commitment to actively engage in research projects of mutual benefit in an effort to encourage innovation and collaboration between the two organizations. A Research Connections working group made up of members of the City Administration and Department of Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives at USask has been actively advancing and sustaining these efforts since 2019.

At its November 8, 2023, meeting, the Governance and Priorities Committee received an information report entitled "[COS USask Research Junction Update](#)," which provided an update on the program.

## CURRENT STATUS

The Research Connections working group has continued its efforts in developing, sustaining, and improving opportunities for collaboration through data sharing, partnership development, and support for research opportunities.

The annual Research Junction development grant competition continues to serve as one of a few cornerstone programs for establishing productive collaborations between the City and USask. The grant competition encourages both City Administration staff and USask academics to submit research project ideas to be considered for the \$100,000 in available funding each year (\$50,000 each from USask and the City). Each application must both align with the strategic goals of the City and fulfill an academic accomplishment for USask.

The Research Junction program has provided 22 development grants since its inception, with 16 completed to date and, at time of report writing, 4 more anticipated to be complete by the end of Q2 2025.

The 2024 competition awarded two development grants totalling \$58,000 for the following projects:

- *Optimizing the Reliability of the City of Saskatoon's Water Supply Network.* Leads: Hamed Samarghandi and Amanda Munshaw; and
- *Data Review and Program Evaluation of the Saskatoon Fire Department's Inadequate Housing Initiative.* Leads: Mansfield Mela and Yvonne Raymer.



The working group hosted a City/USask workshop on October 30, 2024, to re-invigorate research connections between the two organizations. The event included several presentations, guest speakers, and thematic group discussions with 109 attendees. Outcomes of the event included a list of research projects inspired by City Administration that was shared with university researchers and administrators, and greater awareness of the Research Junction program.

Subsequent to the October workshop, participants were invited to establish partnerships to apply for a seed grant to build research and partnership capacity, with the goal of applying for additional funding. Six \$5,000 seed grants were awarded for the following projects, which create useful incubator opportunities to apply for additional outside research funding [e.g. Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), Mitacs]:

- *Digital Equity Literature Review*. Leads: Dawn Wallin, Austin Stewart;
- *Digital Transformation Solutions Toward Inclusive AI: Equity and Ethics in Saskatoon's Service Delivery*. Leads: Joelena Leader, Yasmine Wafa;
- *Improving the Safety and Environmental Sustainability of "Forever Chemicals" in the Saskatoon Fire Department*. Leads: Lee Wilson, Rob Hogan;
- *Measuring and Modeling Saskatoon's Transit and Housing Capacity: Bus Rapid Transit and the Housing Accelerator Fund*. Leads: Scott Bell, Tyson McShane;
- *Slow the Spread: Dutch Elm Disease Literature Review*. Leads: Sean Prager, Jeff Boone; and
- *Determining Research Priorities for Firefighter Health in the Saskatoon Fire Department*. Leads: Tracey Carr, Rob Hogan.

The 2025 development grant competition launched earlier this year with an application deadline of May 16. At time of report writing, adjudication of the applications had not yet occurred. For more information visit the [Research Junction website](#).

## DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

### Leveraging External Funding

As research partnerships between various City and USask departments develop and grow, the Research Connections working group also works to support these partnerships in pursuing externally funded research grants. The following projects have attracted external funding to support comprehensive research efforts:

- USask and the City were awarded \$480,000 from NSERC for the *Innovating Design and Decision-Making for Sediment Management in Stormwater Retention Ponds: Enhancing Pond Performance While Minimizing Lifecycle Costs* project. Leads: Kerry Mazurek and Mitch McMann; and
- USask and the City, along with partners from SaskPower, SaskEnergy, Enbridge Inc., and the Government of Saskatchewan, were awarded \$300,000 from NSERC for the *Research and Application of Air-Source Heat Pumps to Improve Implementation in Cold Climates* project. Leads: Carey Simonson and Jeanna South (along with additional partners).

### Research Stories and Impact

The [Research Junction website](#) includes several articles regarding the impact of the research projects undertaken to date. The following are some highlights from recent projects:

1. *An Economic Analysis of Housing Sustainability Policies for Under-Represented and Vulnerable Populations in Saskatoon* project. Leads: Nazmi Sari and Melissa McHale:

This project aims to learn more about any gaps in services provided and the bylaws enacted by the City in order to create more preventative systems to fight housing insecurity and homelessness in the future.

*“If we deem a house to be uninhabitable, as a last resort, we’ll issue a notice of closure on a house. We’ve had to do that where there’s people, family, pets living in the houses. With this research project, we thought it would be beneficial ... looking into why was this house closed in the first place? Often when we’re stepping in and closing a house, the problem didn’t appear overnight.”*

A number of well-intended policies in municipalities inadvertently have unintended and undesired consequences. In addition to addressing frontline policies, this research will also examine economic policies – or lack thereof – around housing supports.

*“Just identifying some of those gaps or maybe how people fall through the cracks, anything that we could do or recommendations we could make to other agencies to prevent this problem before it gets there.”*

2. *Optimizing the Reliability of the City’s Water Supply Network* project. Leads Hamed Samarghandi and Amanda Munshaw:

This project involves analysis of the City’s primary water main network to identify supply chain risks and decide on a strategy for purchasing and warehousing critical replacement stock. The intent is to apply the results of the research immediately and to purchase and warehouse recommended parts, reducing risk to the City and the citizens that rely on the water distribution network.

*“Going from reactive to proactive, that’s the main reason for the project. Also, the type of research we’re doing might end up saving the City money. Proactive ordering and storage in the warehouse might in fact save the city money due to the inflation effect. We will consider this matter in our models.”*

*“The recent large-scale water main break in Calgary has raised public awareness of the risk large municipalities face with respect to water services. Increasing supply chain pressures, such as product availability and long lead times, can cause delays in repairing large diameter water mains. This project aims to help the City of Saskatoon develop a risk-informed strategy for critical large*

*diameter parts, thereby increasing the availability of Saskatoon's water distribution system."*

3. *Public Support and Communication Strategy for Municipal Property Tax Policy Reform: Evidence from a Survey Experiment* project. Leads: Yang Yang and Mike Jordan:

This project delves into potential property tax reforms and how to communicate them to the public.

*"This research is really going to give us some insight into what may be possible going forward, and what may not be possible in terms of what the (public) tolerance and barriers are around using different revenue instruments."*

Since the City receives nearly half of its operating revenue from property taxes, it's important for residents to understand them as fully as possible. As the services that municipalities support and supply change over time — with added pressures, including addressing climate change, keeping up with inflation, and funding essential services in a continually expanding city — municipalities must adjust their revenue strategies to meet these new demands.

*"We think tax policy reforms are necessary to ensure that municipalities can meet all these new demands and challenges. We're hoping to use this project to provide a timely assessment of the public acceptance and support for proposed property tax policy changes."*

*"We're hoping to inform the development of targeted and effective communication strategies that could resonate better with residents about what our rationales are, and what could be missed opportunities, without reforming property tax policy."*

An article regarding a previous Research Junction project from 2020-21 involving the same collaborators entitled [Competing for Business: Non-Residential Property Tax Policies in Saskatoon](#) was recently published in the Canadian Journal of Public Administration.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Since 2019, the City and USask have provided matching annual funding of \$50,000 each towards the Research Junction development grant competition. The City's contribution to date has utilized annual allocations out of the Reserve for Capital Expenditure (RCE). USask has recently confirmed that they would continue to support the program with their annual contribution over the long term should the City establish an ongoing operational budget to continue its support of the program.

## **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no communications, Triple Bottom Line, policy, privacy, or CPTED implications or considerations emerging from this report. These will be considered in future reports as required.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The Administration will be putting forward a budget option for City Council's consideration to instate long-term funding of the Research Junction program through the 2026-2027 Multi-Year Business Plan and Budget.

Subject to approval of funding, the 2026 Research Junction development grant competition will be launched in early 2026 with an application deadline in late spring. In addition, the Research Connections working group will continue to support research collaborations in pursuing external competitive funding opportunities including opportunities for Mitacs, NSERC, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Partnership Grant funding. The working group will also continue to develop stories of completed research collaborations to share with the public.

### **Report Approval**

Written by:	Dan Willems, Director of Technical Services
Reviewed by:	Angela Gardiner, General Manager, Utilities and Environment
Approved by:	Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

Admin Report - Research Junction Program Update 2025.docx

## Walter, Penny

---

**Subject:** FW: Comments - Meaghan Risling - Research Junction Program Update 2025  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support for the Research Junction Development Grant.pdf

---

**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025 9:01 AM  
**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>  
**Subject:** Comments - Meaghan Risling - Research Junction Program Update 2025

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED]

Submitted on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 - 08:56

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** Yes

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Tuesday, May 27, 2025

**To:** Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**First Name:** Meaghan

**Last Name:** Risling

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** [REDACTED]

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] Gymnasium Pl

**Ward:** Ward 1

**Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):** University of Saskatchewan

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** Governance and Priorities Committee - June 11

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** Research Junction Program Update 2025

**Comments:**

Please accept this letter of support from the University of Saskatchewan for the continued funding of the Research Junction program.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No



May 26, 2025

Governance and Priorities Committee  
City of Saskatoon

Re: Letter of Support for the Research Junction Development Grant

Dear Committee Members,

The University of Saskatchewan enthusiastically supports the continued funding of the Research Junction Development Grant, a partnership between the City of Saskatoon and University of Saskatchewan (USask). Research Junction funds early research collaborations that are co-designed and co-led by City of Saskatoon staff and USask researchers, building the foundation for strong partnerships and long-term, collaborative research programs.

Research Junction is a major initiative under the MOU signed between USask and the City of Saskatoon and has consistently generated new research partnerships and projects for the benefit of Saskatoon residents. In addition to the Development Grant, Research Junction supports collaboration through partnership facilitation services, a Data Licensing agreement, and a Master Research agreement. In addition, the program reinvigorated research connections at the Research Junction Workshop in October 2024, which brought together 109 attendees from both organizations to discover new areas of research to explore. Research Junction funded 6 Seed Grant projects in December 2024 to accelerate moving the conversations and ideas generated at the workshop into projects and partnerships.

Research Junction has successfully launched 23 Development Grant research projects and 6 Seed Grant projects since 2019. These grants support a broad range of research projects that are improving the quality of life for Saskatoon residents and supporting operations and policy at the City of Saskatoon. Some recently funded projects are looking at improving supply chains to shorten water main break repairs, reviewing policies to fight housing insecurity and homelessness, and exploring sustainable transportation strategies.

With 15 projects completed to date, Research Junction has already made an impact, with highlights including:

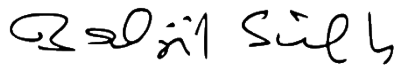
- 46 students receiving training and valuable experience working on City-focused research projects;
- Receiving over \$2 million in external research funding to support City-USask research projects and partnerships that were initially facilitated through Research Junction;
- Publications and reports from these projects have informed Saskatoon's Place Identity Framework, Community Energy Loan Program, and the City Centre and District Plan, among others.

USask is committed to the success of this program and will fund this program annually at \$50,000/year (matched to City of Saskatoon funding). USask will continue to provide in-kind resources of staff, including a coordinator for the program, communications and grant administration support.

Research Junction embodies the intent of the MOU between USask and the City of Saskatoon. It puts ideas into action, delivers outstanding value to residents, and is grounded in collaboration and innovation. USask is excited to continue to support and fund Research Junction and looks forward to continuing this partnership with the City of Saskatoon.



Peter Stoicheff, Ph.D.  
President and Vice-Chancellor  
University of Saskatchewan



Baljit Singh, FCAHS, BVSc&AH, MVSc, PhD  
Vice-President, Research  
University of Saskatchewan



# National Urban Park Exploration 2024 – 2025 Update

## ISSUE

The City of Saskatoon (City) has been working with project lead Meewasin Valley Authority (Meewasin), Parks Canada (program leader and project partner), rightsholders, Indigenous organizations and key stakeholders in the exploration of a potential National Urban Park (NUP) designation. This report provides an update on work underway exploring the feasibility of a NUP within Saskatoon and area, and further information on the Indigenous Cultural Spaces project that is being delivered as part of the NUP by the City.

## BACKGROUND

On August 4, 2021, a joint public announcement was made regarding funding from the Federal Government for Meewasin to lead a regional project to undertake a feasibility study to explore potential models for the formalization of an Urban Park in Saskatoon and region.

City Council, at its Regular Business meeting on August 30, 2021, approved in part:

- “2. That the City of Saskatoon be an active partner in collaboration with Meewasin on the recently announced feasibility study for an Urban Park model in Saskatoon.”

The Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services at its meeting on September 12, 2022, received a presentation from Laurel Carlton (Parks Canada) and Mike Velonas (Meewasin) providing an update on the NUP Exploration work. The Committee made the following resolution:

“That the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services request Administration work with the Meewasin Valley Authority and other partners involved in the National Urban Park Exploration on the potential of including a table of elected representatives to be included in the governance process, and report back.”

The Governance and Priorities Committee, at its meeting on June 12, 2024, received the report titled National Urban Park Exploration – Update ([Report, Append 1](#)). Parks Canada and Meewasin attended the meeting.

The Government of Canada’s [Interim National Urban Parks Policy](#) became effective July 22, 2024. The policy enables Parks Canada to designate NUPs and set parameters for their development. [Supplemental program information](#) on creating new national parks, process, and governance is also available from Parks Canada.

The NUP Model could progress [Saskatoon’s Official Community Plan, Bylaw 9700. NUP](#) aligns with City Council’s [2022-2025 Strategic Plan](#) in the following ways:

- Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion outcome: “There is an increased community awareness and understanding of systemic racism and a commitment to redress past harms” with a key action being “Create spaces where all community members feel safe and welcomed to ensure cultural identities and living experiences are reflected in the community.”
- Recreation, Sport and Leisure outcome: “Recreation, parks, sport, cultural facilities and programs are accessible, inclusive and meet changing community needs.”
- Environmental Sustainability outcome, where “the green network is integrated, managed and enhanced to protect land, air and water resources”.
- In the Quality of Life and Public Safety outcome: NUP advances “welcoming and inclusive public infrastructure, space and natural assets that bring people together”.

## **CURRENT STATUS**

### National Urban Park Policy Framework

The Government of Canada defines NUP as places of natural or historical significance to the nation, located in or near a major city in Canada, that are managed in ways that contribute to three core objectives: conserving nature; connecting people with nature; and advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. They are typically large, predominantly natural areas that may consist of existing natural areas or areas that are being restored to a more natural condition. A NUP may be one large area or a group of smaller areas that do not need to be physically connected to each other.

Parks Canada is studying candidate NUPs in consultation with collaborators, such as Indigenous governments, municipalities, provinces, and federal organizations. The core objectives guide the creation and management of a network of NUPs across Canada. The proposed network of NUPs across Canada includes Meewasin, the greater Edmonton area, Halifax, St. John’s, Victoria, Windsor, and Winnipeg.

The network of NUPs would include areas managed under a range of flexible governance models, including federally administered places, third party administered places, and partnership models. The Meewasin Valley Authority model of governance, and its mandate to balance conservation of habitat with public access to natural spaces and carefully managed development, acts as a precedent for the network.

### National Urban Park Exploration Roles

With Parks Canada as the sponsor and Meewasin as the project leader, the NUP Exploration for Saskatoon and Area has also been guided by a broadly representative Steering Committee including:

- City of Saskatoon;
- Government of Saskatchewan;
- Meewasin Valley Authority;
- Metis Nation Saskatchewan, Western Region IIA;

- Parks Canada;
- RM of Corman Park;
- Saskatchewan North Partnership for Growth (P4G);
- Saskatoon Tribal Council;
- University of Saskatchewan; and
- Wanuskewin Heritage Park.

The City of Saskatoon is both a governing partner with Meewasin and is a key stakeholder / steering committee member in this NUP work. City Administration subject matter experts have been supporting the work through involvement from the following departments: Indigenous Initiatives, Sustainability, Parks, Planning and Development, Recreation and Community Development, Transportation, Facilities Management, Communications and Public Engagement, Saskatoon Fire, Finance and Solicitors.

### Steps Toward National Urban Park Designation

There are four steps defined in the process to reach operation as a NUP. Appendix 1 in report: National Urban Park Exploration – Update ([Report, Append 1](#)) provides a full summary overview of the activities, outcomes and deliverables throughout the process and highlights the four steps of: 1) Pre-Feasibility; 2) Planning; 3) Designation; and 4) Implementation.

### Study Area

Boundaries in this context of the NUP for Saskatoon and area would be a policy designation and would not change ownership of the land. Discussions related to potential boundaries for a NUP in the Saskatoon area have focused on some key issues as follows:

- 1) The boundary needs to be feasible for potential designation, targeting early 2026;
- 2) The NUP is to be focused on urban and near-urban areas; and
- 3) Parks Canada anticipates that certain kinds of land-use will not be included in NUPs (e.g., residential areas, commercial developments).

### Why Pursue a National Urban Park Designation?

The NUP initiative is significant and could allow Meewasin resources to work with many partners and the public to shape and improve urban open spaces into the future and within the fast-paced growth of the Saskatoon region. An expanded NUP model has potential for positive implications for the environment in and around Saskatoon, for the region, and for Saskatchewan. NUPs have great promise to:

- Conserve and restore nature in cities;
- Foster economic activity and improve natural capital asset valuation;
- Help cities manage climate change risks and impacts such as floods and heat waves;
- Improve access to nature and connections to the land for people living in cities;
- Conserve and share cultural heritage;
- Improve quality of life and benefit health; and
- Advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

## DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

### Phase 1: Pre-Feasibility

Pre-Feasibility is the initial stage of the NUP Exploration, with work in this phase considering the opportunities and requirements of a formalized and expanded urban park area. This phase was completed in July 2024, with the delivery of [the Pre-Feasibility Report](#).

The Pre-Feasibility Report proposes that the NUP in the Saskatoon region would build on the strengths and success of the Meewasin's experience in operating a local urban park over the last 45 years. As a collaborative, registered charitable organization that spans multiple jurisdictions, Meewasin has many established partnerships and is well positioned to manage an enhanced NUP. In the Saskatoon region, the NUP would not be a federally governed or administered park, according to the Pre-Feasibility Report. The Meewasin Valley Authority would act as the lead partner, or site manager, and the model under consideration, which suggests that Meewasin would coordinate park operations with partners. The report identifies that a designated NUP would be governed under the existing *Meewasin Valley Authority Act*.

The Pre-feasibility Report identifies how the Saskatoon and Area exploration aligns with three core objectives of the NUP Program: conserving nature; connecting people with nature; and advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

- *Conservation of nature:* The Meewasin Valley is an area with high quality biodiversity and considerable areas of native prairie grasslands, one of the most ecologically valuable and threatened ecosystems in the world. Other ecosystems such as wetlands and forest/shrublands are also present. The Meewasin Valley is home to a highly diverse environment with a high variety of plant species and bird species, and numerous mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and insects.
- *Connecting people with nature:* More than a third of the population of Saskatchewan resides within 15km of the Meewasin Valley Corridor. Over 325 classrooms are educated annually in the study area and there are over 107km of trails. There are multiple public and active transit routes that connect with the Meewasin Valley, with additional opportunities for enhancements for those that live further away. The study area averages over 2 million visits per year, with usage doubling during the pandemic.
- *Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples:* The Meewasin Valley includes areas of significant historical and cultural value to First Nations and Métis people, including archaeological sites as well as places that continue to be used for cultural practices today. Culturally significant areas will be explored further as this project continues. Parks Canada and Meewasin Valley Authority are in ongoing dialogue with Saskatoon Tribal Council member First Nations, the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan, Western Region 2A to explore opportunities for First Nations and Métis communities to access and reconnect with the lands and waters in the Meewasin Valley.

Other key considerations for the Saskatoon region identified in the Pre-Feasibility Report include, having a boundary that creates a connected corridor, ensuring a willing buyer, willing seller approach for any potential future land securement, no new or additional federal regulations, and establishing sustainable, long-term federal funding.

Parks Canada has confirmed that the Saskatoon region candidate completed the Pre-Feasibility Phase of the NUP process and has allowed the project to shift to the next step in the NUPs' designation process, the Planning Phase.

### Phase 2: The Planning Phase

The work of the NUP Planning Phase is underway and includes: refinement of the vision, governance and boundaries; planning to define and prioritize capital investments and operational needs; and stakeholder engagement.

In March 2024, Lord Cultural Resources, duToit Allsopp Hillier and Environmental Dynamics Ltd. commenced work on a Draft Conceptual Capital and Operating Plan (C&O Plan). The C&O Plan is founded on the development to date of the vision, boundaries and governance work completed for the Feasibility Study (refer to Appendix 1). The goal for the C&O Plan is to assess current aspects of Meewasin and understand the gaps that would need to be bridged with further investment if the decision is made to pursue a NUP designation for the Saskatoon region.

For this exploration, a staged approach has been taken to first consider the boundary area with the greatest feasibility at the time of designation, and then review expansion opportunities post-designation. For the initial phase of the boundary designation, the focus has been on lands within the Meewasin Valley jurisdiction, with the area of interest having a land area of 6700ha. Parks Canada has been working with partners to determine which areas of the Meewasin jurisdiction should be included within the NUP, and to identify any additional areas of natural or cultural significance that could be considered for inclusion within a potential park boundary.

The C&O Plan includes four strategy areas which work collectively to propose an ideal future state for the potential NUP, based on partnership and collaboration. The intent is that Truth and Reconciliation actions are woven through each strategy. The four strategies are:

- Visitor Experience: a visitor-centric approach to how visitors encounter and experience Meewasin.
- Access: Key updates to the 2014 Trail Study to reflect changes of the last ten years, incorporate new best practices, and to support the visitor experience strategy.
- Conservation: Clarifies the Meewasin's definition of conservation and prioritizes conservation goals and targets.
- Administration: Assess Meewasin's current operations and outlines what changes would be necessary for Meewasin to have an operational capacity to implement the recommendations outlined in the strategies.

The C&O Plan is currently at the draft state and is being used to generate content in the planning and development of engagement for the community, stakeholders, and rightsholders. At the time of the preparation of this report, Meewasin was leading the procurement of consultant services for engagement planning and delivery. Meewasin anticipates that an engagement plan will be developed within Q2, and engagement events will be held between June and September 2025, with an engagement report to follow.

#### City Administration's Letter of Continued Support

From January-March 2025, Meewasin and Parks Canada were working on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for continued work on the NUP. The City Administration provided a letter of support, restating the City's commitment to assist Meewasin as it leads this next phase of work and in Meewasin's delivery of planning tasks including:

- Execution of a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Meewasin and Parks Canada that expresses the work completed so far on the proposed NUP project and outlines a shared vision and a framework to continue to negotiate designation under the National Urban Parks Policy;
- Conducting stakeholder, Indigenous, and public engagement and delivery of a summary of this engagement;
- Progressing budget and investment planning; and
- Other work needed to progress the proposal for NUP designation.

The City has based this support on the following shared understanding:

- A NUP in the Saskatoon region would not be federally administered.
- Designation will not impose new or additional federal regulations.
- Critical path steps to designation will be shared with partners.
- A proposal will be developed that details: finalized vision, boundaries and governance; how Parks Canada funding can enhance the park; how program objectives will be met; budget; and investment priorities.
- Parks Canada and Meewasin have confirmed that current funding partners will not need to contribute any additional money over and above their current funding arrangements to fulfill the steps to get to a designation agreement by March 31, 2026.
- The project is subject to Parks Canada securing ongoing sustainable, long-term federal funding.
- Roles and responsibilities of each partner in the governance model will be discussed and agreed upon prior to designation.
- Plan for public engagement will be developed and shared with partners.
- Plan for First Nations and Métis engagement will be developed with First Nation and Métis partners.
- All risks and responsibilities associated with managing lands within the proposed park boundary remain with the landowner.

The Government of Canada and the NUP initiative has set the project deliverables for the Planning phase as: budget and investment plan prepared in draft; MOU signed between Parks Canada and the proponent (Meewasin); summary of stakeholder and public engagement published; and agreement to proceed to negotiation. Meewasin and Parks Canada anticipate that the project will move to the Designation phase after public engagement is concluded in Q4 2025.

#### The Indigenous Cultural Spaces Project

The City along with partner organizations Meewasin, Wanuskewin Heritage Park, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Health Authority, Saskatoon Police Service and the Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre (Partnership Circle) are working together to create spaces with guidance from Knowledge Keepers that allow for teaching, learning and cultural revitalization while also supporting mental, physical, spiritual and emotional well-being.

In March of 2023 a Gathering was hosted by the group of partners committed to the common goal of improving quality of life of Indigenous people. Clear direction was provided at this Gathering for the Partnership Circle to investigate and plot a course to develop a suitable space, or spaces, dedicated to cultural practices within or close to the Saskatoon urban footprint.

In October of 2023, another Gathering was hosted in conjunction with a fire ceremony hosted by Meewasin. The Gathering was organized around 4 main themes: Urban Cultural Spaces, Traditional Knowledge and Stories, Traditional Plants and Uses and Natural Areas and Green Spaces.

Youth have been an integral part of the Gatherings, serving, listening, reflecting and presenting. A specific youth engagement was also held at the end of March 2025.

Some initial work has been developed such as an environmental scan of existing cultural spaces, and a bylaw and barrier scan.

Another Gathering was held in May 2025, where the dialogue continued, intergenerational knowledge was shared, and the vision, governance and site considerations for the urban cultural space(s) were discussed. Participants included Knowledge Keepers, resource people and representatives from rightsholders and Indigenous organizations and youth.

Following the Gathering, a clearer path forward will be developed setting out project management, a business case and a funding plan, site analysis, a master plan, public engagement, design, construction and operations. Reports to Council will be completed at the appropriate stages.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Government of Canada has committed funding to the City of Saskatoon for work to support and progress the NUP exploration. Funding received from the Government of Canada from September 2023 to March 2025 for research, analysis, communications, Indigenous Cultural Spaces planning and support, and administration totalled

\$220,899.71. The City expects to receive approximately \$215,000 in additional funding from the Government of Canada for work between April 2025 and March 2026.

Parks Canada and Meewasin have confirmed that current funding partners will not need to contribute any additional money over and above their current funding arrangements to fulfill the steps to get to a designation agreement by March 31, 2026. Costs for future park priorities and enhancements beyond designation would be discussed and agreed upon. Any additional funding from the City would require Council approval.

Further project work is required to develop a proposal that details how Parks Canada funding can enhance the park; how program objectives will be met; governance; budget and investment priorities. Work will continue throughout 2025 to define the full scope, phases and the financial implications for the NUP.

As stated in the support letter, implementation of the project is subject to Parks Canada securing ongoing sustainable long-term federal funding.

## **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **Economic**

The Meewasin Valley plays a significant role in attracting and retaining residents and businesses to Saskatoon. The Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority's (SREDA) estimate of the economic value of Meewasin Valley's natural Capital in 2017 is \$182 million. Natural capital assets occupy 14% of the City's current footprint and offer a wide range of benefits to the community in the form of supporting, regulating, cultural and provisioning ecosystem services. A NUP could further support promotion of tourism, contributing to the municipal economy. Furthermore, managed natural areas and park space also positively contribute to the land value of areas and neighbourhoods near the amenity.

### **Environmental**

Designation of NUP sites would have notable environmental benefits including the long-term protection of significant natural areas in the city and the preservation of critical remaining habitat. Critical habitat in Saskatoon is currently under threat from urban development, fragmentation and invasive species. The phased approach could support the designation of habitat corridors to connect natural areas and improve the viability of the sites. Restoration of key sites and connectivity through an Urban Park reduces habitat threats. Additionally, the protection and restoration of natural areas would have significant climate adaptation benefits, such as carbon sequestration and mitigation of climate related risks such as wildfires, droughts and overland flooding.

### **Social**

Social distancing measures related to COVID-19 highlighted the importance of residents' connection to nature for mental and physical health. The designation of an interconnected Urban Park would help ensure all residents of Saskatoon have access to natural space and improve overall equity and access to Saskatoon's green infrastructure. Additionally, there are significant opportunities to work in partnership with



Indigenous rights-holders; both to acknowledge and support their long-term relationship and stewardship of this land and to determine ways that ongoing Indigenous stewardship of natural areas can be fully supported.

There are no privacy or legal implications with this report. As work on this NUP Exploration continues, future reporting will identify any implications and/or decision points for the City.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The NUP in the Saskatoon area is still in the exploratory phase and no decisions have been made at this time. The City continues to be an active member on the NUP Steering Committee and staff from across several departments continue to be involved in this exploration work. Planning is progressing for engagement on the NUP with the Community, First Nations, and Metis, to be carried out through Q2-Q3 2025. There is currently a targeted timeline of March 2026 for potential NUP designation and many activities between now and then will continue to be worked through.

As progress continues, Administration will bring further reports to this committee for updates and when there is a requirement for any City approvals.

## **APPENDICES**

1. Vision, Boundaries and Governance

### **Report Approval**

Written by:	Jeanna South, Director of Sustainability
Reviewed by:	Angela Gardiner, General Manager, Utilities and Environment Celene Anger, General Manager, Community Services
Approved by:	Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

Admin Report - National Urban Park Exploration 2024 – 2025 Update.docx

## Conceptualizing a Potential Saskatoon Region National Urban Park

The draft vision statement, key areas of focus, governance and boundaries for a potential Saskatoon Region National Urban Park were developed and refined in the Planning phase of the exploration.

### Draft Vision

*The Saskatoon Region National Urban Park aspires to conserve imperiled prairie grasslands and wetlands and protect vital ecosystems that are critical to urban health and traditional Indigenous ways of life. Weaving through Saskatchewan's largest population centre, this space emphasizes the importance of outdoor experiences to our collective well-being and has been designated as a featured Canadian destination to ensure all will be able to know and connect with the natural, cultural and recreational value of this area for generations to come.*

### Areas of Focus

- Wellness
  - Support Physical & Mental Health Benefits
  - Create Connection/Gathering Spaces
  - Honour Spiritual/Cultural Spaces
  - Facilitate Outdoor Recreation
- Reconciliation
  - Respect Indigenous rights and interests
  - Acknowledge Traditional Territory & Features
  - Respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action
- Tourism / Economic Development
  - Showcase Unique Aspects of Region
  - Attract Visitors
  - Offer Cultural & Recreational Experiences
  - Encourage Small Business Opportunities
- Conservation
  - Preserve for our Children
  - Protect nature
  - Conserve biodiversity
  - Manage water
- Education
  - Create Interactive Experiences
  - Culture
  - History

## Vision Boundaries and Governance

- Access
  - Foster spaces inclusive of all abilities, ages, languages, etc.
  - Facilitate Free Active Spaces
  - Welcoming

### **Governance**

In the Saskatoon region, the potential national urban park would not be a federally governed or administered park. The Meewasin Valley Authority would be the lead partner and the model under consideration suggests that Meewasin would coordinate park operations with partners, like how these areas are managed today. It has been identified that a designated national urban park would be governed under the existing *Meewasin Valley Authority Act*. No changes to any Act or legislation are proposed, and there will be no change in the authority or autonomy of any entities.

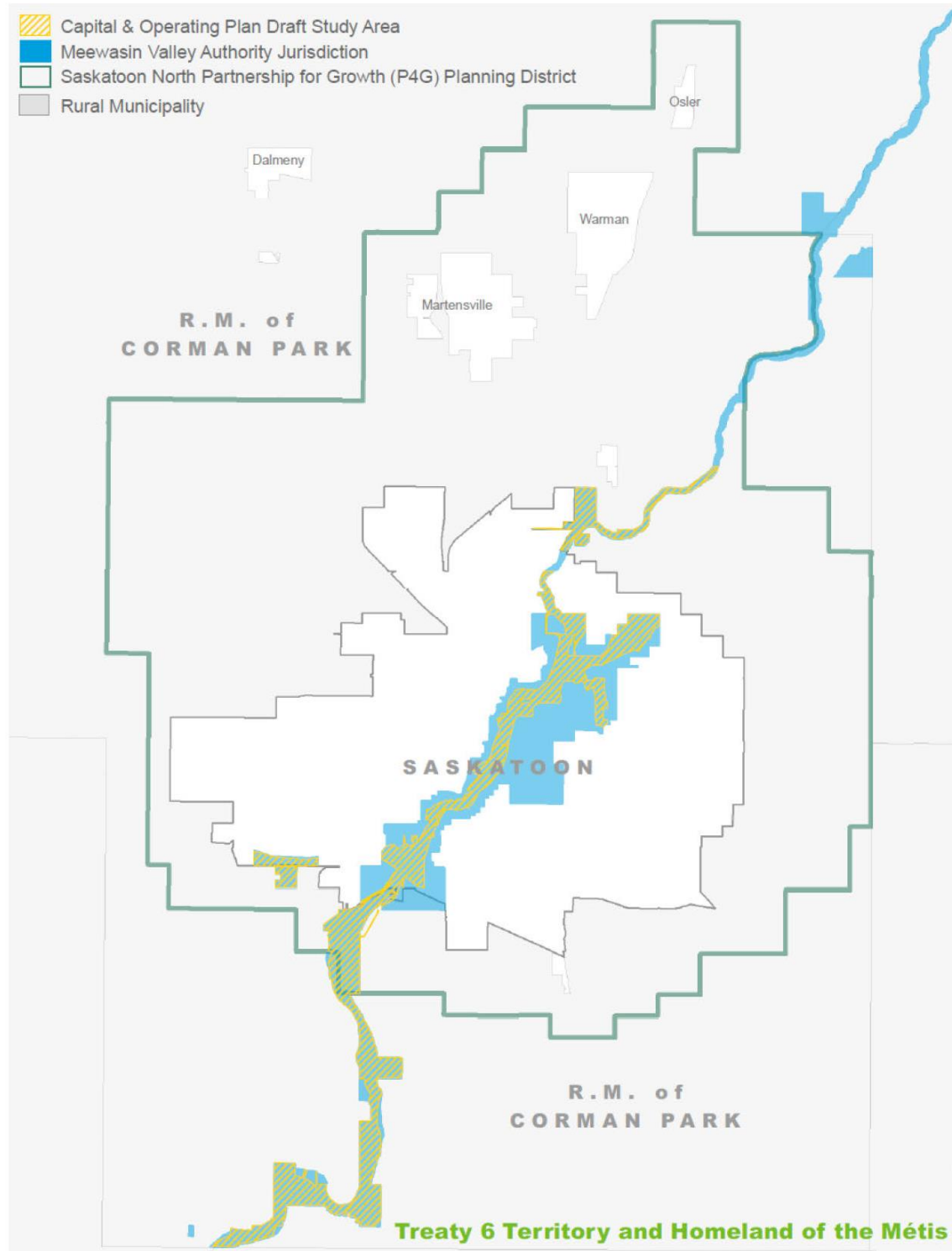
### **Boundary**

Figure 1 illustrates a provisional park boundary for the NUP study area. This area includes lands already within the Meewasin Valley and owned by a steering committee entity. At this stage of the project, the boundary is not finalized, rather it is provisional and are open to further refinement through ongoing discussions and engagement with entities such as the City of Saskatoon, the Rural Municipality of Corman Park, the Government of Saskatchewan, and the University of Saskatchewan. The project acknowledges that any boundary that may be finalized leading up to or upon designation may further evolve in future decades. Should a designation be obtained, and should boundary changes be desired, they would follow a formal process to ensure appropriate stakeholder and partner engagement as part of any decision-making process.

The vision, areas of focus, governance, and boundary for a potential National Urban Park for Saskatoon and Area are still evolving and will continue to develop through further discussion with the Steering Committee and Indigenous and public engagement.

## Vision Boundaries and Governance

Figure 1: National Urban Park draft boundary for Saskatoon and Area.



Map showing Capital & Operating Plan Draft Study Area for a potential Saskatoon Region National Urban Park (yellow) and related jurisdictions and boundaries. Boundaries are provisional at this point and depend upon further discussion with the City, RM, and University.

## Walter, Penny

---

**Subject:** FW: Request to Speak - Mike Velonas - National Urban Park Exploration  
**Attachments:** CoS June 2025.pdf

---

**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 6, 2025 3:05 PM  
**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>  
**Subject:** Request to Speak - Mike Velonas - National Urban Park Exploration

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED]

Submitted on Friday, June 6, 2025 - 15:04

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Friday, June 06, 2025

**To:** Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** He/him/his

**First Name:** Mike

**Last Name:** Velonas

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** Vuh-low-nuss

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** 402 3rd Ave N

**Ward:** Ward 6

**Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):** Meewasin Valley Authority

**What do you wish to do ?:** Request to Speak

**If speaking will you be attending in person or remotely:** In person

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** GPC

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** National Urban Park Exploration

**Comments:**

I will speak to the project, including work done to date and next steps.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

# Meewasin Valley Authority

miywâsin is nêhiyawêwin/Cree for “it is beautiful”

*Stewards of the river valley corridor*

Meewasin is located on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We humbly acknowledge the traditional caretakers of the land and honour the First Nations and Métis people of this place.



# Steering Committee

**Government of Saskatchewan**

**Saskatoon Tribal Council**

**Métis Nation - Saskatchewan**

**Parks Canada**

**City of Saskatoon**

**RM of Corman Park**

**Wanuskewin Heritage Park**

**University of Saskatchewan**

**Meewasin Valley Authority**

**Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth**





# Work to Date

- **Established Steering Committee**
- **Early engagement**
  - **Explore Vision**
  - **Boundary Criteria**
  - **Governance Models**
- **Accessibility and Inclusion Assessment Tool**
- **Conservation Tools Update**
- **Development of options: vision, boundary, governance**
- **Draft Conceptual Capital and Operating Plan**
- **Pre-Feasibility Report**



## Parameters for NUP exploration

- Retain local autonomy;
- Governed under the *Meewasin Valley Authority Act*;
- No new or additional federal regulations;
- Establish sustainable, long-term federal funding;
- Boundary that creates a connected corridor
- Ensure a willing buyer, willing seller approach for any potential future land securement

### Legend

- Meewasin Jurisdiction
- City of Saskatoon

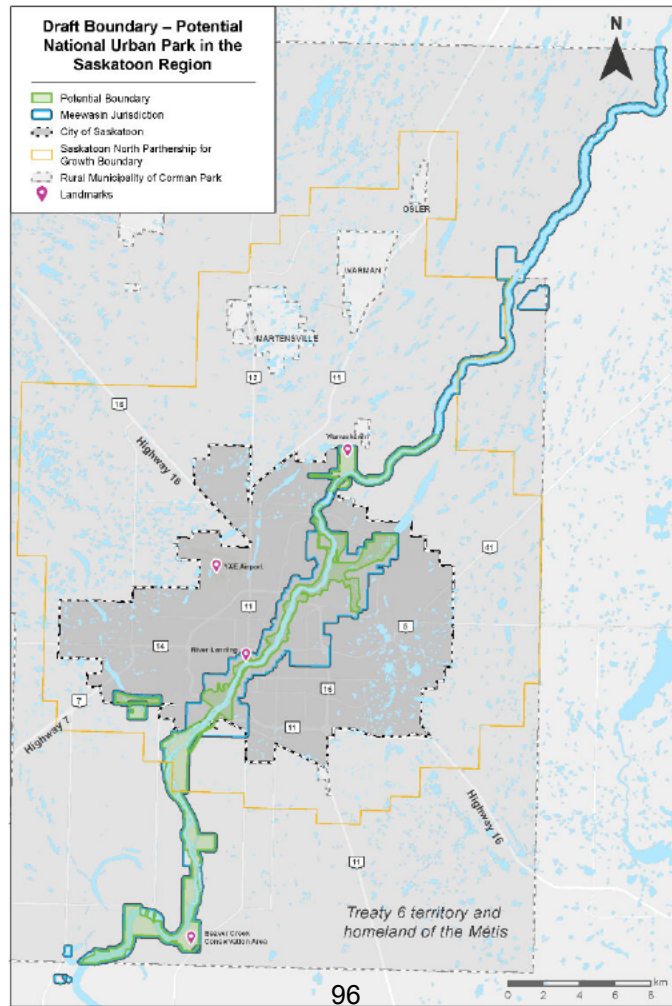


# Jurisdiction

The Meewasin Jurisdiction runs **75 km along the river**, and is a vast area, about the size of **13 thousand football fields!**

Meewasin is the steward of **Canada's largest urban conservation zone.**







# Potential National Urban Park – Next Steps

- **Public, First Nations and Métis Engagement**
  - July - September 2025
- **Feedback will inform a plan for the potential national urban park designation**



# Referral List – Governance and Priorities Committee – June 2025

### ISSUE

Administration is providing an update to the Governance and Priorities Committee on its list of referrals as of June 2025.

### BACKGROUND

Lists of referrals for City Council and its Committees are maintained. As matters are dealt with or reported on, items are marked “completed” until the next reporting cycle and then removed from the lists or updated accordingly and provided for information semi-annually.

### CURRENT STATUS

Administration has undertaken a review of referrals for the Governance and Priorities Committee (see Appendix 1).

### DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The list contains the subject matter, date of meeting, the Division the matter was referred to, resolution (or portion of) that was referred and the current status of each item, as provided by Administration. As part of the review process by Committee, items can be removed by resolution should reporting from the Administration no longer be desired, with no formal rescinding process required. City Council can also provide feedback on priority of reporting as currently listed.

### OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial, privacy, legal, social, or environmental implications identified.

### NEXT STEPS

Updated lists are provided to Committee approximately every six months - January and June of each year.

### APPENDIX

1. GPC Referrals as of May 15, 2025

### Report Approval

Written by: Holly Thompson, Committee Assistant  
Reviewed and Approved by: Adam Tittermore, City Clerk

Admin Report - Referral List – Governance and Priorities Committee – June 2025.docx

Governance and Priorities Committee  
Referral List - June 2025

No.	Task Name	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Meeting Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments - Update	Task Status	Completed Date
1	Colleen Christopherson-Cote - Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership - Community Benefit Frameworks and the Downtown Event and Entertainment District	6/14/2023	Governance and Priorities	That the Administration report back outlining the development process, implications and opportunities for a Community Benefits Framework for major capital projects in Saskatoon.	City Solicitor's Office	GPC2023-0612	Report anticipated Q4 2026	In Progress	
2	City Council Strategic Priority and Leadership Initiative - 2023 Q4 Update	12/20/2023	Governance and Priorities	1. That the Women Leading report be forwarded to the Administration for a report back outlining areas of alignment with existing work, and any opportunities to incorporate feedback gathered from forum participants into civic work plans; and 2. That the Administration report back on opportunities to repeat a similar internship opportunity at City Hall with partnership support, maintaining connection with City Councillors and the Mayor's Office, and stationed with administration in Community Development.	City Clerk's Office,#Community Services	GPC2023-1205	Resolution 1 - In progress/Ongoing. Resolution 2 - Completed PDCS June 4, 2025	In Progress	
3	Council Resourcing	4/9/2025	Governance and Priorities	That City Administrative support levels for Councillors be reviewed again in advance of the 2027 Mid-year budget.	City Clerk's Office	GPC2024-0504	Report anticipated Q2 2026.	In Progress	
4	Transportation Business Line Information	8/15/2023	Governance and Priorities	1. That, ahead of the final 2024/25 budget meetings, the Administration report on the impact of eliminating fares for children 5 to 13 years of age (13 under). The report should incorporate details from Regina Transit related to their elimination of fares for children under 13. 4. That Administration report back to Standing Policy Committee on Transportation, and separate from the 2024/25 budget process, on transit service options such as on demand transit on low ridership routes and/or at low ridership times while maintaining service levels.	Transportation and Construction	GPC2023-0703	Resolution 1 - Completed at Nov 8, 2023 GPC Resolution 4 - Completed at April 1, 2025 Transportation	Completed	4/1/2025
5	Blake Tait - Denounce '1 Million March 4 Children'	11/8/2023	Governance and Priorities	That the Administration report back on the request to declare Saskatoon a 2SLGBTQ+ Sanctuary City.	City Clerk's Office;#City Solicitor's Office	GPC2023-1103	Completed GPC March 12, 2025	Completed	3/12/2025
7	2024 Civic Services Survey Results	1/21/2025	Governance and Priorities	That Administration report back before the next multi-year budget on options to enhance the Civic Satisfaction Survey to ensure the views of our diverse community are heard and broken out in the report, along with ward by ward statistical information.	Strategy and Transformation	GPC2025-0102	Completed GPC March 12, 2025	Completed	3/12/2025

### Referral List – City Council – June 2025

#### ISSUE

Administration is providing an update on the City Council list of referrals as of June 2025.

#### BACKGROUND

Lists of referrals for City Council and its Committees are maintained. As matters are dealt with or reported on, items are marked “completed” until the next reporting cycle and then removed from the lists or updated accordingly and provided for information semi-annually.

#### CURRENT STATUS

Administration has undertaken a review of referrals for City Council (see Appendix 1).

#### DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The list contains the subject matter, date of meeting, the Division the matter was referred to, resolution (or portion of) that was referred and the current status of each item, as provided by Administration. As part of the review process by Committee, items can be removed by resolution should reporting from the Administration no longer be desired, with no formal rescinding process required. City Council can also provide feedback on priority of reporting as currently listed.

#### OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial, privacy, legal, social, or environmental implications identified.

#### NEXT STEPS

Updated lists are provided to Committee approximately every six months - January and June of each year.

#### APPENDIX

1. City Council Referrals as of May 15, 2025

#### Report Approval

Written by: Holly Thompson, Committee Assistant  
Reviewed and Approved by: Adam Tittlemore, City Clerk

Admin Report - Referral List – City Council – June 2025.docx



**City Council  
Referral List - June 2025**

**Appendix 1**

No.	Task Name	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Meeting Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments - Update	Task Status	Completed Date
1	University Drive Median Opening and Lane Paving - 1006 College Drive and 421 Clarence Avenue North	2/25/2019	Council	3. That the Administration report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation after investigating funding strategies for infrastructure improvements, such as but limited to lane paving or underground utilities, that are required for major new infill development.	Community Services;#Transportation and Construction	4351-018-027	Report anticipated Q3 2026.	In Progress	
2	Budget Adjustment Request - Capital Project P.02273 - 108th Street Over Circle Drive Overpass	7/25/2022	Council	That the Administration report on completion of the repairs as well as an update on the police investigation related to the incident.	Transportation and Construction	6001-5	The City is seeking damages for the cost of repair through the litigation process.	In Progress	
3	Circle Drive West Functional Planning Study – Final Report	11/21/2022	Council	3.That the Administration proceed with developing alternative neighbourhood access concepts for Montgomery Place, including stakeholder engagement, that does not include at-grade rail crossings and report back when complete; and  4. That the Administration engage with regional partners about alternative access between Highway 7 and Circle Drive South.	Transportation and Construction	6001-1	Resolution 3 - Reported back at SPCT May 7, 2024  Resolution 4 - Anticipated report TBD	In Progress	
4	17th Street Extension Project - March 2023 Update	3/29/2023	Council	That the Administration report back with a project status update and administrative recommendation at the appropriate time.	Transportation and Construction	TS2023-0304	Report anticipated Q4 2025.	In Progress	
5	Proposed Rewrite of The Traffic Bylaw	4/26/2023	Council	1. That the City Solicitor be instructed to draft a new traffic bylaw to replace Bylaw No. 7200, The Traffic Bylaw; 2. That the City Solicitor be instructed to prepare any necessary consequential amendments to any other City bylaw, including but not limited to The Recreation Facilities and Parks Usage Bylaw, 1998;	City Solicitor's Office	TS2023-0402	Report anticipated Q4 2025.	In Progress	
6	Bylaw Amendments to Support e-Permitting for Business Licences	6/28/2023	Council	2. That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the approved amendments to Bylaw Nos. 9746, 9525, and 9011.	City Solicitor's Office	PDCS2023-0602 x TS2023-0601	Report anticipated Q3 2025.	In Progress	
7	Bylaw Amendments to Support e-Permitting for Business Licenses	8/8/2023	Council	That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the approved amendments to Bylaw No. 9651.	City Solicitor's Office	TS2023-0601	Report anticipated Q3 2025.	In Progress	
8	Saskatoon Municipal Review Commission - Future Path	3/27/2024	Council	2. That the City Solicitor take the necessary steps to repeal Bylaw No. 9242, the Saskatoon Municipal Review Commission Bylaw, 2014; and 3. The City Solicitor bring forward a new bylaw creating a Council Compensation Review Committee for City Council's consideration.	City Solicitor's Office	GPC2024-0302	Report anticipated Q4 2025.	In Progress	
9	Road Safety Audit – College Drive and Wiggins Avenue	4/24/2024	Council	That Administration also report back, in alignment with BRT route planning and the campus connector study, on Option 9 or another more complete solution to fully accommodate all modes of transportation at the intersection of Wiggins and College Drive That Administration report back on opportunities for the City and Council to support changes to commercial vehicle standards and relevant regulations that would reduce driver blind spots. That the report also include potential opportunities for a pilot project to retrofit some City vehicles with enhanced visibility measures to evaluate their effectiveness.	Transportation and Construction	CC2023-0602	Resolution 1 - Anticipated report Q1 2027 when Campus Connector study is expected to be completed. Resolution 2 - Reported back at SPCT September 3, 2024 Resolution 3 - Reported back at SPCT August 3, 2024	In Progress	

City Council  
Referral List - June 2025

No.	Task Name	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Meeting Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments - Update	Task Status	Completed Date
10	Expansion of Access to Public Washrooms and Drinking Water	5/29/2024	Council	5. That the Administration report back for the 2025 budget deliberations with proposed investment for City-led ongoing provision of 24/7 washrooms in the Pleasant Hill/Riversdale area including a transition to 365 days of operation.  6. That further reporting be provided outlining a pathway for the City to permanently address the washroom and drinking water gaps outlined in this report. That this include investigation of partnership opportunities such as community-partnered navigation facility with integrated provincial services/supports and consider the recommendations and materials from the Public Washrooms Advisory Committee.	Saskatoon Fire Department	PDCS2023-0613	Resolution 5 - Reported back December 2/3, 2024, Budget Meeting. Resolution 6 - TBD	In Progress	
11	Saskatoon Transit - Implementing Free Child Fare	6/26/2024	Council	3. That the City Solicitor be directed to make the necessary amendments to The Transit Fares Bylaw, 2004, as outlined in report dated June 4, 2024 of the Transportation and Construction Division; and  4. That the Administration provide a report back after one year of the implementation of the free child fare program.	City Solicitor's Office;#Transportation and Construction	GPC2023-0703	Resolution 3 - Reported back Regular Business August 28, 2024 meeting.  Resolution 4 - Report anticipated Q4 2025	In Progress	
12	Housing Accelerator Fund - Permitting up to Four Units in all Residential Zoning Districts	6/27/2024	Council	That City Council instruct the City Solicitor to prepare any necessary consequential amendments to Bylaw No. 9958, <i>Building Bylaw, 2024</i> . That the Administration report back about offsite levies being applied at the development permit stage for infill development in addition to the subdivision stage as currently applied; and  That the Administration report back within one year outlining any necessary policy, design standards, or bylaw changes required to ensure growth pays for growth related to infrastructure required to support projected infill development.	City Solicitor's Office;#Community Services	GPC2023-0503	Resolution 1 - Reported back Regular Business September 25, 2024. Resolution 2 - TBD	In Progress	
13	Housing Accelerator Fund - Permitting Four Storey Dwellings within the Transit Development Area - Response to Motions Arising	6/27/2024	Council	That the Administration report back, once further stakeholder engagement has taken place, to the appropriate meeting and a proposed amendment to the process or regulation for protecting public street trees in the context of construction beneath yards.	Community Services	GPC2023-0503	Report anticipated October 2025	In Progress	
14	Blairmore Sector Plan Amendment	7/31/2024	Council	That the Administration further report back on the flexibility of the phasing with respect to what the landowner group presented July 31, 2024.	Community Services	MPC2024-0606	Report anticipated Q1 2026.	In Progress	
15	Downtown Event and Entertainment District - Private Partner Agreement Framework Update	8/28/2024	Council	That the report be forwarded to the August 28 Regular Business Meeting of City Council as an approval report or at such time OVG is able to be in attendance.	Transportation and Construction	DEED2023-01	Update report went to Sept 25 2024 RB.  Updated report went to April 9, 2025 GPC meeting advising a pause of up to 6 months on approval of the Agreement Framework in light of federal election and trade war - TBD.	In Progress	

**City Council  
Referral List - June 2025**

**Appendix 1**

No.	Task Name	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Meeting Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments - Update	Task Status	Completed Date
16	Downtown Event and Entertainment District Funding Strategy	8/28/2024	Council	3. That administration be directed to report back on additional revenue sources and project savings, with the intent to fortify the City's ability to fund the project with no property tax increase and reduce the financial reliance on the accommodations industry and amusement tax revenue streams. If, during the work and further refinement of this funding strategy, it is identified that a property tax increase could be required to meet project revenue needs, reporting is to occur.	Transportation and Construction	DEED2023-01	Updated report went April 9, 2025 advising of a pause of up to 6 months on approval of the agreement framework.	In Progress	
17	Housing Accelerator Fund - Removal of Municipal Reserve Designation - 1635 McKercher Drive	8/28/2024	Council	That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the appropriate documents and that his Worship the Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to execute the documents under the Corporate Seal; and That the Administration report back within one year on the status of redesignating a Municipal Reserve Parcel for a portion of 1635 McKercher Drive.	Community Services	GPC2023-0503	Report anticipated June 2025.	In Progress	
18	Protocol Policy	8/28/2024	Council	2. That the Administration report back on provisions in the policy with regards to raising flags from other nations; and; 3. That the Administration report further in regard to requests for resolutions of support to either: Require any organization that is requesting for Council to pass a Resolution of Support to get a sponsoring member of City Council to bring that item forward through the Notice of Motion process; or Add additional criteria for Administration to consider to determine whether the matters merit or are appropriate for City Council debate.	City Solicitor's Office	GPC2023-0501 and GPC2024-0305	Report anticipated Q3 2025.	In Progress	
19	Saskatoon's City Centre and District Plan	9/25/2024	Council	2. That Administration create a business plan option for the implemenetation of Saskatoon's City Centre and District Plan for consideration uring the 2026/2027 Business Plan and Budget deliberations.	Community Services	GPC2024-0901	Report anticipated June 2025.	In Progress	
20	Proposed Community Encampment Response Plan	12/12/2024	Council	6. That the Administration issue a call for proposals for a project partner for the housing units and multi-purpose space and report back to City Council with the successful proponent; and 7. That the Administration bring forward the results of the feasibility study for information once complete.	Community Services	CC2024-1206		In Progress	
21	Councillor J. Parker - Expansion of Access to Public Washrooms and Drinking Water	1/29/2025	Council	3. That reporting be brought forward for consideration as part of the 2026/27 budget regarding options for public washrooms as contained and updated from the December 2, 2024 report.	Utilities and Environment	CC2025-0104	Report anticipated Q4 2025.	In Progress	
22	Heritage Conservation Program Strategy - Item Options Report	2/26/2025	Council	2. That Administration be directed to bring forward a final Heritage Conservation Program Strategy built on Option 2, along with a detailed implementation and funding plan for consideration during the 2026/2027 Business Plan and Budget Deliberations.	Community Services	PDCS2025-0201	Report anticipated August 2025.	In Progress	
23	Elm Wood Disposal Initiative Next Steps	3/26/2025	Council	4. That the City Solicitor's Office be requested to amend Bylaw No. 9844, The Waste Bylaw, 2022, as outlined in the March 4, 2025, report of the Utilities and Environment Division.	City Solicitor's Office	EUCS2023-0202	Report anticipated June 2025, Regular Business.	In Progress	
24	Proposed Amendments to The Waste Bylaw, 2022	3/26/2025	Council	2. That the City Solicitor be requested to make the necessary amendments to Bylaw No. 9844, The Waste Bylaw, 2022.	City Solicitor's Office	CCB2023-1108 GPC2023-0813	Report anticipated June 2025, Regular Business	In Progress	

**City Council  
Referral List - June 2025**

**Appendix 1**

No.	Task Name	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Meeting Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments - Update	Task Status	Completed Date
25	Preliminary Year-End Results - December 31, 2024	3/26/2025	Council	2. That the City Solicitor be directed to prepare a Bylaw Amendment for an exemption to allow the printer savings in 2024 and also savings expected for 2025 to be transferred to Printing and Mail Equipment Replacement Reserve;	City Solicitor's Office	FI2025-0305 GPC2023-0503	Report anticipated June 25, 2025 - The Printing and Mail Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve Exception Bylaw, 2025	In Progress	
26	Absences and Support for City Councillors	4/30/2018	Council	That the Administration be directed to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the Legislative Budget including consideration of establishing an Office of the Councillors and other budgeting models for Councillors.	City Clerk's Office	4560-1 x 255-1 x 1700-1	Leave of Absence Policy adopted by Council January 30, 2022. Reported at GPC April 9, 2025.	Completed	4/9/2025
27	Joint Use Facility Site Study - East Side High School - Leisure Centre Update	7/27/2020	Council	2. That the Administration be directed to report back on funding options for the project; and 3. That the Administration be directed to continue discussions with the Saskatoon YMCA related to the planning of an integrated Leisure Centre being planned for the Holmwood Sector and report back.	Community Services	PDCS2024-0504	Completed - Feb 5, 2025 PDCS meeting.	Completed	2/5/2025
28	Temporary Reserved Parking Program Review	5/24/2022	Council	2. That Administration develop a policy, for approval by City Council, that focuses on administering the Temporary Reserved Parking Program	Community Services	6120-0	Completed February 4, 2025 at Transportation	Completed	2/4/2025
29	Administration Response - Saskatoon Municipal Review Commission - 2022 Remuneration Report	11/21/2022	Council	4. That the City review Policy Communications and Constituency Relations Allowance C01-027, and revise references to the election period in generalized terms rather than specific dates, ensuring an appropriate prorated reduction to the CCRA spending is enforced – two months; 5. That the City amend Policy Communications and Constituency Relations Allowance C01-027, Section 3.4 Reimbursements, and Section 3.2 (f) - Constituency Relations – Conditions, to note that a paid receipt is always required; and	City Clerk's Office	4670-5	motions 1, 2, 3 dealt with at GPC - May 15, 2024 Resolutions 4 and 5 deal with at GPC - April 9, 2025	Completed	4/9/2025
30	Provincial Approach to Homelessness - Application for Emergency Residential Shelter - 1701 Idylwyld Drive North	11/22/2023	Council	2. That reporting be requested from the ministry responsible for the facility report back to the City at 6 and 12 month intervals on successes and challenges of the pilot.	Community Services	CC2023-1105	Completed GPC April 2025.	Completed	4/9/2025
31	Saskatoon Municipal Review Commission - Council resourcing recommendations	5/15/2024	Council	That the Administration report back outlining options to increase the levels of resources allocated to the Councillors, including options for additional staffing in the Councillors' Office and/or increase to the CRA and travel/training allowance informed by further consultation and analysis of where those resources could be most beneficial; and That the Administration report on population thresholds and a jurisdictional scan of Canadian cities moving to a model of fulltime councillors and associated staffing.	City Clerk's Office	GPC2024-0504	Completed Regular Business March 26, 2025	Completed	3/26/2025
32	Proposed Closure of Right-of-Way - Portion of Lane 200 and 300 Block 11th Street East and 200 and 300 Block Saskatchewan Crescent East - Nutana Neighbourhood	5/29/2024	Council	That Administration report back on possible options with respect to actions the City can take to mitigate the negative impacts of the lane closure for the surrounding residents, including but not limited to parkign and maintenance.	Utilities and Environment	CC2024-0503	Completed SPC on Transportation January 14, 2025	Completed	1/14/2025

City Council  
Referral List - June 2025

No.	Task Name	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Meeting Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments - Update	Task Status	Completed Date
33	Commercial Utility Deposits	6/26/2024	Council	2. That the City Solicitor be requested to make the necessary amendments to Bylaw No. 7567, The Waterworks Bylaw, 1996, and Bylaw No. 2685, The Electric Light and Power Bylaw.	City Solicitor's Office	FI2024-0608	Completed Regular Business December 18, 2024	Completed	12/18/2024
34	Amendments to the Temporary Sign Bylaw and the Recreation Facilities and Parks Usage Bylaw	6/26/2024	Council	2. That the City Solicitor's Office be instructed to amend the above bylaws as outlined in the report dated June 5, 2024 of the Community Services Division.	City Solicitor's Office	PDCS2024-0602	Completed Regular Business February 26, 2025	Completed	2/26/2025
35	Advanced Metering Infrastructure Participation Policy	9/25/2024	Council	2. That the City Clerk's Office be requested to introduce City Council Policy No. CXX; and 3. That the City Solicitor's Office be requested to amend Bylaw No. 2685, the Electric Light and Power Bylaw, 1940; and Bylaw No. 7567, the Waterworks Bylaw, 1996, as outlined in the report of the Corporate Financial Services Division dated September 3, 2024.	City Clerk's Office;#City Solicitor's Office	EUCS2024-0903	Completed Regular Business December 18, 2024	Completed	12/18/2024
36	Proposed Amendments to Landfill Replacement Reserve Bylaw No. 6774 Capital Reserve Bylaw	9/25/2024	Council	That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the appropriate bylaw amendments to the Landfill Replacement Reserve within Bylaw No. 6744, the Capital Reserve Bylaw, 1993, as outlined in the report of the Corporate Financial Services Division dated September 4, 2024.	City Solicitor's Office	FI2024-0905	Completed Regular Business December 18, 2024	Completed	12/18/2024
37	2025 Business Plan and Budget Proposed Adjustments	12/2/2024	Council	6. That the City Solicitor be instructed to draft the appropriate amendments to Bylaw No. 9958, The Building Bylaw 2024, and Bylaw No. 7981, The Private Swimming Pools Bylaw 2000.	City Solicitor's Office	CCB2024-1208	Completed Regular Business December 18, 2024	Completed	12/18/2024
38	Update on Temporary Emergency Residential Shelter Funding	12/12/2024	Council	4. That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the necessary tax exemption bylaw and agreement.	City Solicitor's Office	GPC2023-1002 CC2024-0202	Completed Regular Business February 26, 2025	Completed	2/26/2025
39	Housing Accelerator Fund Interest	12/18/2024	Council	That the Administration direct the Housing Accelerator Fund Interest to General Revenue and report back as part of the 2024 Year-End Preliminary Financial Results on the 2024 Interest made on Housing Accelerator Funds and options on how to allocate these.	Corporate Financial Services	GPC2023-0503	Completed SPC on Finance January 15, 2025	Completed	1/15/2025
40	Traffic Bylaw Amendments - Parking Area for the Fringe Festival	12/18/2024	Council	2. That the City Solicitor be requested to make the necessary amendments to Bylaw No. 7200, the Traffic Bylaw, 1991.	City Solicitor's Office	TS2024-1201	Completed Regular Business January 29, 2025	Completed	1/29/2025
41	Shared Electric Kick Shooter Program Pilot - 2025 Update	1/29/2025	Council	That the City Solicitor's Office be requested to amend Bylaw 7200, <i>The Traffic Bylaw, 1991</i> , as outlined in the report of the Transportation and Construction Division, dated January 14, 2025.	City Solicitor's Office	TS2025-0104	Completed Regular Business April 23, 2025	Completed	4/23/2025
42	2025 Property Tax Phase-in Plan	3/26/2025	Council	2. That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the 2025 Property Tax Phase-in Plan Bylaw for submission to City Council for consideration at the same meeting that the Mill Rate Bylaws are presented.	City Solicitor's Office	FI2025-0304	Completed Regular Business April 23, 2025	Completed	4/23/2025

City Council  
Referral List - June 2025

No.	Task Name	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Meeting Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments - Update	Task Status	Completed Date
43	2025 Budget Approval - Business Improvement Districts	3/26/2025	Council	That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the 2025 Business Improvement District Levy Bylaws for submission to City Council for consideration at the same meeting that the Mill Rate Bylaws are presented.	City Solicitor's Office	FI2025-0301	Completed Regular Business April 23, 2025	Completed	4/23/2025
44	Councillor Timon - Temporary Reserved Parking TRP Program	3/26/2025	Council	That Administration be directed to report back no later than May 2025 on policy considerations to facilitate TRP fee reductions for construction projects, that upon completion, result in allowances for additional pay parking spaces, including analysis on financial implications for the City, financial risk and potential process.	Transportation and Construction	CC2025-0303	Reported to SPC-Transportation On May 6, 2025 - "Temporary Reserved Parking Program - Policy Considerations"	Completed	5/6/2025
45	Coyote and Feeding of Wildlife Update	3/26/2025	Council	2. That the City Solicitor's Office be instructed to draft a bylaw to prohibit the feeding of wildlife, as outlined in the report of the Community Services Division, dated March 5, 2025.	City Solicitor's Office	CC2024-0607	Council - Regular Business - May 21, 2025	Completed	5/21/2025

## Inquiries and Notice of Motions – June 2025

### ISSUE

Administration is providing an update to City Council on its inquiries and notice of motions as of June 2025.

### BACKGROUND

A list of City Council's inquiries and notice of motions is maintained and provided for information semi-annually. As matters are initially reported on, items are updated accordingly by either being marked complete noting final resolution or transferred to a Council/Committee referral list if further reporting was requested of the Administration.

### CURRENT STATUS

Administration has undertaken a review of Council's outstanding inquiries and notice of motions (see Appendix 1).

### DISCUSSION ANALYSIS

The list contains the subject matter, date of meeting, Council member who made the inquiry or motion, the Division the matter was referred to, resolution (or portion of) and the current status of each item, as provided by Administration. As part of the review process by Committee, items can be removed by resolution should reporting from the Administration no longer be desired, with no formal rescinding process required. Council can also provide feedback on priority of reporting as currently listed.

### OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial, privacy, legal, social, or environmental implications identified.

### NEXT STEPS

An updated list is provided to Council approximately every six months - January and June of each year.

### APPENDIX

1. Inquiries and Notice of Motions as of May 15, 2025

### Report Approval

Written by:	Holly Thompson, Committee Assistant
Reviewed and Approved by:	Adam Tittermore, City Clerk

Admin Report - Inquiries and Notice of Motions – June 2025.docx

**Inquiries and Motions  
Referral List - June 2025**

**Appendix 1**

ID	Item Type	Title	Meeting Date	Councillor	Inquiry Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments/Update	Task Status	Date Completed	Final Resolution
1	Notice of Motion	Motion - City Auditor - Ability to Assess Potential Value for the City of Saskatoon to Utilize SUMA's Group Purchasing Program	7/26/2023	Councillor Donauer	That the City Auditor report back on the ability to assess the potential value for the City of Saskatoon utilizing SUMA's group purchasing program, Kinetic GPO. The report would inform Council on the Auditor's 2023 and 2024 work plans, and whether this is work that could be implemented either this year, or in the upcoming year.	Other	CC2023-0605	Report anticipated Q1 - Q2 2026	In Progress		
2	Notice of Motion	Councillor D. Hill - Community Grants Program Application Cycle	8/28/2024	Former Councillor Hill	That the Administration report back on the possibility of changing the grant application cycle from an annual process to a two or three-year application process. It is further resolved that the Administration report on what administrative procedures would be relaxed with a multi-year application process and where those resources could be allocated to benefit the community.	Community Services Division	CC2024-0706	Report anticipated Q4 2025	In Progress		
3	Notice of Motion	Former Councillor H. Gough - Land Use - Saskatchewan Polytechnic Campus	9/25/2024	Former Councillor Gough	That the Administration report to the appropriate Standing Policy Committee regarding the best mechanism to engage in land use and other planning for the area around the current Saskatchewan Polytechnic campus on Idylwyld, outlining the resources necessary and a proposed timeline for this work.	Community Services Division	CC2024-0802	Report anticipated June 2026.	In Progress		
4	Notice of Motion	Former Councillor D. Hill - Ward One Intersection Safety	11/27/2024	Former Councillor Hill	That Administration report back on previous traffic reviews and studies at this intersection, including traffic impact studies since the opening of the Chief Mistawasis Bridge, and the findings and recommendations of the studies and reviews, traffic impact studies completed or planned related to new development that will impact the intersection, and future safety improvements and/or traffic studies and reviews planned for this intersection by Administration.	Transportation & Construction Division	CC2024-0913	Report anticipated Q3 2025	In Progress		
5	Notice of Motion	Former Councillor D. Hill - Supply Chain Management Operations Audit	11/27/2024	Former Councillor Hill	Whereas the Administration is in the process of completing a Continuous Improvement Review related to Fleet Services and Fleet Stores Operations, could the Administration please provide a report outlining the findings, results and improvements made once the review is completed.	Corporate Financial Services	CC2024-0914	Report anticipated Q4 2025	In Progress		
6	Notice of Motion	Councillor Z. Jeffries - Residential Security Cameras	11/27/2024	Councillor Jeffries	That Administration report back about private residential security cameras and methods being used in Canadian municipalities to manage privacy concerns. Please include information about the implications of implementing new tools to address related privacy concerns among residents.	City Solicitor's Office	CC2024-0916	Report anticipated Q3 2025.	In Progress		
7	Inquiry	Councillor D. Hill - North Park and Richmond Heights Neighbourhood Traffic Review - Deficient Sidewalks	7/31/2024	Former Councillor Hill	Would the Administration please report on the North Park and Richmond Heights Neighbourhood Traffic Review that was completed in 2018. The focus of the report is to be on deficient sidewalks, their locations, and the timelines for having them.	Transportation & Construction Division	CC2024-0704	Completed at SPC on Transportation on December 10, 2024.	Completed	12/10/2024	That the information be received.
8	Inquiry	Councillor D. Hill - Edmonton Avenue Sidewalks	7/31/2024	Former Councillor Hill	Would the Administration report on the timelines to install the sidewalk along Edmonton Avenue from 33rd St to Avenue P. In October 2020, a senior member of the transportation administration attended a meeting with representatives from the Senior complex, Villa Royal, and at that time, confirmed that the sidewalk would be constructed in 2021. It has yet to be constructed.	Transportation & Construction Division	CC2024-0705	Completed at SPC on Transportation on December 10, 2024.	Completed	12/10/2024	That the information be received.
9	Inquiry	Councillor Pearce - Financial Impact of Carbon Tax	2/26/2025	Councillor Pearce	Would the Administration report back on the estimated financial impact the Carbon Tax has had on the City of Saskatoon from 2020 to 2024.	Corporate Financial Services	CC2025-0202	Considered at May 7, 2025, of SPC on Finance.	Completed	5/7/2025	That the information be received.



**Inquiries and Motions  
Referral List - June 2025**

**Appendix 1**

ID	Item Type	Title	Meeting Date	Councillor	Inquiry Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments/Update	Task Status	Date Completed	Final Resolution
10	Notice of Motion	Councillor C. Block - Cycling Safety	6/28/2023	Mayor Block	1.The Administration commission a third-party road safety audit at the intersection of College Drive and Wiggins Avenue. 2. That the 2023 operating budget transfer to the Reserve for Capital Expenditures be reduced by \$30,000 and reallocated to Transportation to complete a third-party road safety audit at the intersection of College Drive and Wiggins Avenue and report back with the results and any recommendations. 5. ... and that Administration report further through a strategic planning process providing clarification about information sharing with Council and public for Notices of Motion. 6. That Administration be directed to have discussion with SGI about its driver handbook and report back on SGI's plans to include education about cycling and this concern along with the 2019 Standing Policy Committee on Transportation report be shared with SUMA via our representatives on the board.	City Clerk's Office	CC2023-0602	Resolution 1 reported back Council April 24, 2024 Resolution 2 reported back Council April 24, 2024 Resolution 3 reported back SPCT October 10, 2023 and April 2, 2024 Resolution 5 reported back January 16, 2025. Resolution 6 reported back Council September 25, 2024	Completed	1/16/2025	Rec 1. - 'That the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation recommend to City Council that the Administration continue with implementation of recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, and 14.'
11	Notice of Motion	Councillor R. Donauer - Urban Wildlife Best Practices	7/31/2024	Councillor Donauer	That the Administration report on best practices regarding wildlife in the city, specifically aggressive coyotes, with options to keep our residents and wildlife safe from harm. Provide options for how residents can precipitate an elevated response when safety concerns become more significant.	Community Services Division	CC2024-0607	Completed PDCS March 5, 2025	Completed	3/5/2025	1. Administration be directed to proceed as outlined in the report of the Community Services Division, dated March 5, 2025 and; 2. The City Solicitor's Office be instructed to draft a bylaw to prohibit the feeding of wildlife, as outlined in the report of the Community Services Division, dated March 5, 2025.
12	Notice of Motion	Councillor R. Donauer - Feeding of Wildlife	7/31/2024	Councillor Donauer	"That the Administration report back on a bylaw to ban or restrict the feeding of wildlife within the City of Saskatoon.	Community Services Division	CC2024-0703	Completed Council May 21, 2025	Completed	5/21/2025	That Bylaw Nos. 10079 and 10080 now be read a THIRD time, that the bylaws be passed and the Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to sign same and attach the corporate seal thereto.
13	Notice of Motion	Councillor C. Block - Eastlake Sidewalk Infill	9/25/2024	Mayor Block	That the Administration report back with options for the installation of a sidewalk infill segment on the West side of the 500 block of Eastlake Avenue in coordination with the proposed development at 555 Eastlake, if technical constraints prevent private construction of the proposed public walkway.	Transportation & Construction Division	CC2024-0909	Completed SPC on Transportation December 10, 2024	Completed	12/10/2024	That the information be received.
14	Notice of Motion	Councillor Z. Jeffries - Green Space Weed Management	11/27/2024	Councillor Jeffries	That Administration report back about the creation of a pilot project to manage weeds in public green spaces using tools that are not currently employed, such as herbicides. Please include information about potential timelines, public engagement, effectiveness, practices in other jurisdictions, and financial implications. The focus should be on dealing with areas where current methods have proven ineffective at weed management.	Community Services Division	CC2024-0915	Considered at the May 7, 2025 PDCS meeting	Completed	5/7/2025	That the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services recommend to City Council that Administration be directed to proceed as outlined in this report.
15	Notice of Motion	Motion - Councillor Donauer - Snow and Ice Service Levels	12/2/2024	Councillor Donauer	Whereas, the need for snow and ice services continues to challenge our existing levels of service, and whereas resident expectations of residential supports are growing, would administration report back on options to improve service, and please include information about services levels and costs from other Canadian winter cities.	Transportation & Construction Division	CCB2024-12	Completed June 3, 2025 SPC on Transportation	Completed	6/3/2025	That the information be received.

**Inquiries and Motions  
Referral List - June 2025**

**Appendix 1**

ID	Item Type	Title	Meeting Date	Councillor	Inquiry Resolution	Division	File No.	Comments/Update	Task Status	Date Completed	Final Resolution
16	Notice of Motion	Mayor C Block - Homelessness in Saskatoon	1/29/2025	Mayor Block	That the Administration be directed to report back no later than March 2025, with an evaluation of, and potential role for the City, with respect to the new plan to address homelessness in Saskatoon that is currently under development; andThat the Administration be directed to develop and bring forward a comprehensive process to ensure the community has the opportunity to have their voices heard by Council regarding the plan; andThat the Administration be directed to bring forward a proposed Terms Of Reference and governance model for a Council Sub-Committee, whose mandate would be to activate partnerships to accelerate the plan.	Saskatoon Fire	CC2025-0105	Completed Regular Business March 26, 2025	Completed	3/26/2025	That the information be received.
17	Notice of Motion	Councillor K. MacDonald - Snow Clearing on Neighbourhood Bikeways	3/5/2025	Councillor MacDonald	That Administration report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation with options and costs to include snow clearing on Neighbourhood Bikeways in the service levels for snow and ice management for consideration in the 2026/2027 Multi-Year Business Planning and Budget deliberations.	Transportation & Construction Division	TS2025-0106	Completed June 3, 2025 SPC on Transportation	Completed	6/3/2025	That the information be received.