

Official Community Plan Redesign – Quality of Life Review

ISSUE

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

BACKGROUND

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

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

CURRENT STATUS

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

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

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

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

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

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

It includes policies relating to:

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

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

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

New and updated content is informed by:

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

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

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

NEXT STEPS

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

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

APPENDICES

1. Proposed Content of Section D - Quality of Life

REPORT APPROVAL

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

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