Saskatoon Transportation Strategy – March 2020 Update

ISSUE

The Administration has developed prioritization criteria for transportation projects, compiled, and reviewed projects previously identified through various planning processes.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation recommend to City Council: That the criteria for prioritizing transportation projects, as provided within this report, be approved.

BACKGROUND

City Council, at its Regular Business meeting held on May 25, 2015, considered the Prioritization Strategy for Roadway Network Improvements report and resolved:

- "1. That the Administration be directed to develop the appropriate policy or policies for prioritizing transportation system improvements based on the outline presented in the report of General Manager, Transportation and Utilities dated May 11, 2015; and
- 2. That the Administration bring forward the draft policy or policies to the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation prior to implementation."

The Saskatoon Transportation Strategy (STS), or a Transportation Master Plan for the City of Saskatoon (City) is under development and will unite all existing transportation policies and plans. It is consistent with the redesigned Official Community Plan, Strategic Plan, and Growth Plan. The STS will ultimately be used to guide the implementation of a ten-year transportation infrastructure plan, annual budgeting, program development, long-range financial planning, area and corridor transportation studies, and design and practice guidelines. A draft framework for the STS is included in Appendix 1.

The City has existing policies for selecting corridor studies and intersection improvement projects (Council Policies C07-023, Corridor Study Selection Process and C07-024, Intersection Improvement Project Selection Process).

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

A component of the STS is a list of potential future transportation investments ('Big Picture'). The majority of these projects and programs have been provided to either a Standing Policy Committee or City Council over the past number of years. A map illustrating all of the known transportation projects and programs is provided in Appendix 2.

A detailed non-prioritized list of projects and programs, including a Level 1 cost estimate and category of work (operations, planning, active transportation, safety) is provided in Appendix 3.

The next step is to prioritize the projects and programs based on the seven criteria derived from the Strategic Plan 2018-2021 developed to assist with the prioritization.

Strategic Goals		Prioritization Criteria
Moving Around	The transportation network includes an accessible and efficient transit system and a comprehensive network of active transportation to provide more choice to move around the city.	Improves Equity Improves Accessibility
	Traffic flow throughout the city is safe and optimal.	 Improves Safety Optimizes Traffic Flow Addresses Network Gaps
	Parking availability is optimized.	6. Optimizes Parking
Sustainable Growth	Our Plan for Growth is sustainable, through a balanced approach to land use, transportation choices, and efficient servicing.	7. Facilitates Infill Development

Other considerations that will be used to finalize a prioritized list of projects and programs include:

- Prior commitments:
- · Coordinating work with other projects and priorities; and
- Balancing the required work with available resources.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Council Policies C07-023, Corridor Study Selection Process and C07-024, Intersection Improvement Project Selection Process will be rescinded.

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

NEXT STEPS

The approved prioritization criteria will be applied to the transportation projects and programs. A ten-year plan and preliminary funding strategy discussion will be presented to the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation and City Council.

An update on the shared utility and active transportation river crossing project near Lenore Drive will be included in the next report. If the project does not warrant inclusion on the ten-year plan, this information will be highlighted.

It is anticipated that the STS document will be presented to City Council in early 2021.

APPENDICES

- 1. Draft Saskatoon Transportation Strategy Framework
- 2. Map of known transportation projects and programs (Big Picture Map)
- 3. Detailed non-prioritized list of projects and programs (Big Picture List)

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Report Approval

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Department

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