



## **GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE**

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### **A Vibrant Future for Saskatoon's Downtown - An Exploration of Potential Funding Opportunities to Bring the Vision to Life**

#### **Recommendation of the Committee**

1. That Council confirm pursuit of a downtown entertainment district/BRT, including the necessary transit and parking improvements, as a priority for the City of Saskatoon;
2. That the Administration be directed to work with stakeholders and other levels of government on achieving a detailed funding plan based on the Administration's presentation of April 19, 2021, (investigating all funding opportunities that include information on potential bonds for the arena) with the goal of constructing the entertainment district with no contributions from property taxes;
3. That a key objective of the entertainment district be to provide public benefit to all residents of Saskatoon;
4. That the Administration provide a report including a public process map outlining the anticipated reports and decision-making milestones related to a downtown entertainment district/BRT;
5. That as a component of ongoing engagement with stakeholders, the Administration lead an analysis of industry forecasts related to events and tourism that would be relevant to the planning of a downtown entertainment district/BRT;
6. That the Administration report on options for incorporating Indigenous placemaking and partnerships in the development of the downtown entertainment district; and
7. That as considerations are made for planning and design of the downtown entertainment district, the Administration report on opportunities to align these projects with the City's High Performance Building Policy and provide leadership by pursuing carbon neutrality in the district.

#### **History**

The Governance and Priorities Committee, at its meeting held on April 19, 2021, considered a report from the Administration regarding the above.

The Committee also considered the attached letters of support and received delegations on behalf of SaskTel Centre, TCU Place, NSBA, Downtown Saskatoon, Tourism Saskatoon and Saskatoon Destination Marketing Hotels Inc.



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## Attachments

- Letter - Will Lofdahl, SaskTel Centre and Tammy Sweeney, TCU Place, dated April 13, 2021
- Letter - Jason Aebig, Saskatoon Chamber, dated April 14, 2021
- Letter - Keith Moen, NSBA, dated April 16, 2021
- Letter – Brent Penner, Downtown Saskatoon BID, dated April 18, 2021