



ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Zoning Bylaw Comprehensive Review Project
Proposed Amendments to Child Care and Adult Day Care Facilities

Description

A review of the regulations for Family Child Care Homes, Child Care Centres, Pre-schools and Adult Day Cares in Bylaw No. 8770, Zoning Bylaw, 2009 (Zoning Bylaw) was undertaken to address feedback and concerns raised by stakeholders during the information-gathering phase of the Zoning Bylaw Comprehensive Review Project (Project).

Using What We Learn

Stakeholders offered valuable feedback which is included in this report. Feedback provided by stakeholders helped to frame discussion and influenced some of the proposed amendments going forward.

Scope of the Review

A review of child care facilities was identified during the scoping phase of the Project. The purpose was to consider alternative approaches to how child care facilities are regulated in the Zoning Bylaw to streamline the development application process, reduce redundancies within the Zoning Bylaw and to review the standards associated with child care facilities. In addition, stakeholders provided feedback that the Project should consider options to reduce the number of applications that require discretionary use approval by City Council.

What We Did

Who we had conversations with	How we gathered input
Internal City of Saskatoon (City) Stakeholders	<p>Relevant internal departments were contacted for review and comment for the proposed amendments. No comments were received that would preclude these amendments from proceeding.</p> <p>Internal City Stakeholders included the Planning and Development, Community Standards, Building Standards, Transportation, Saskatoon Water and Communications and Engagement Departments, as well as the Fire Department and City Solicitors.</p>
Targeted Stakeholders (Child Care and Adult Day Care providers)	<p>Detailed information was shared with targeted stakeholders the week of February 7, 2022. Comments were requested by March 1, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministry of Education shared the information with all child care providers in Saskatoon on the City's behalf; • Information about the proposed amendments was shared with the Licensed Family Child Care Support Group; and, • A list of Adult Day Care providers in Saskatoon was provided by the Ministry of Social Services (eight providers operating at 14 locations). All providers were emailed information about the proposed amendments. One Adult Day Program provider had clarification questions.

<p>Business Improvement Districts</p>	<p>Information about the proposed amendments was emailed to the Downtown, Broadway, and Riversdale Business Improvement Districts on February 9, 2022. Information was emailed to the Sutherland Business Improvement District on February 28, 2022. No comments were received from the Business Improvement Districts.</p>
<p>General Public</p>	<p>Beginning February 3, 2022, information was provided on the Zoning Bylaw Review Engage Page (Engage Page). Visitors to the Engage Page were able to provide a comment, as well as find contact information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No comments were received on the Engage Page. • Seven emails were received and one phone call. <p>Promotion of information on the Engage Page was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about the Engage Page was shared with community associations via the Community Consultants the week of February 7, 2022. • Information about the Engage Page was shared with the Saskatoon & Region Home Builders' Association on February 23, 2022. • An e-newsletter was used to promote the information on February 14, 2022 (581 subscribers). • Facebook was used to promote the information between February 14, 2022 and February 28, 2022. Posts were boosted for additional promotion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reach: 12,256 / Post shared: 9 times / Post Engagements: 381 ○ Link clicked: 175 times ○ Comments: One in support of the amendments. The remaining comments were not topic (non-zoning) specific. • Twitter was used to promote the information between February 14, 2022 and February 28, 2022. Posts were boosted for additional promotion. No topic (non-zoning) specific comments were received. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reach: 1,355 ○ Post likes: 1

What We Heard

We organized what we heard into themes and summaries below. Non-topic specific comments have not been included in this summary.

Please Note: The language below is not verbatim from the comments provided by stakeholders.

Theme	Summarized Comments	Response
Support for proposed amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General support for the proposed amendments. 	Comments noted.
Space requirements for child care facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional children at a child care facility should require additional space to be provided. 	<i>The Child Care Regulations, 2015</i> has “useable floor area” requirements which are calculated based on the number and age of the children.
Non-Zoning Specific Comments: Child Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for child care facilities to operate during the hours between the school day end until parent gets off work. Need for child care facilities that provide services for children diagnosed with autism. Implications of property taxes for non-profit charitable child care centres being considered commercial. Concern regarding staff to child ratio – this is determined by the Province of Saskatchewan. 	Comments noted. Where appropriate, information has been forwarded to the relevant City department.

What Went Well

- Providing a report to the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services to ensure scope and direction of the proposed amendments was appropriate.
- Working with the Ministries of Education and Social Services to ensure proposed changes align with Provincial requirements.
- Working to make our engagement processes more accessible by working with the Ministries of Education and Social Services to ensure targeted stakeholders were advised about the proposed changes.

What We Can Do Better

- Engaging virtually because of COVID-19 made it difficult to follow best practices for inclusive, accessible engagement.
- Some people misunderstood the recommendations. Further explanation of these recommendations was added to the Engage Page to provide more clarity on the proposed changes.

What's Next

- Communications will be developed to ensure the public is aware of the decision of Council on the proposed changes.

