

## Downtown Event and Entertainment District – Site Options Update

### ISSUE

Planning for the development of a Downtown Event and Entertainment District, centered on a new Downtown event centre/arena and convention centre, is ongoing. An update regarding the timing of the site selection process is provided in this report.

### BACKGROUND

At its May 24, 2022 Regular Business Meeting, City Council considered the report entitled "[Downtown Event and Entertainment District – Arena Site Options Evaluation Criteria](#)," which outlined the event center/arena site option evaluations criteria with respect to planning for a future Downtown Event and Entertainment District.

### CURRENT STATUS

The event centre/arena site options and an engagement plan and communications strategy is nearing completion and is expected to be reported publicly this summer.

### DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Negotiations to secure privately owned site options have progressed well over the last year, with conditional agreements in place. At the May City Council meeting, Administration verbally responded to a question, stating that we were hopeful that we would be able to report on site options and engagement by the June Council meeting.

On June 14, 2022 Administration was advised that a slight extension is required by a private owner to facilitate required approvals on their end. This delay will not impact the extent of communication and engagement planned for the Downtown Event and Entertainment District site options. Rather, engagement will simply be pushed back from the originally anticipated July and early August, to August and early September, providing further delays are not required by the private landowner.

The Administration is optimistic that the options and engagement report can be brought forward to the July Council meeting. Should further delays occur, the Administration will provide monthly report updates regarding the next steps.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no identified financial implications at this time.

### OTHER IMPLICATIONS

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

**NEXT STEPS**

Public engagement and communications on the site options is expected to commence this summer following which, Administration will report back to City Council for a decision on the event centre/arena site location.

**REPORT APPROVAL**

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