

INFORMATION REPORT

Prioritized 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Capital Options

ISSUE

Members of the Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) have prioritized the capital options individually, and this report brings forward the results of that process. These results will be the starting point for discussion and debate at GPC at the 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Review meeting in November 2023. Funding from the Reserve for Capital Expenditures (RCE) will be used to fund the capital options.

BACKGROUND

On August 16, 2023, GPC received an information report with the [2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Options](#).

CURRENT STATUS

Following the August 16, 2023 meeting, GPC members have prioritized the capital options and this report details the prioritized list that will be the starting point for discussions at the 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Review meeting on November 28, 2023.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Operating Budget Options

Since the August 16, 2023 GPC meeting, there have been some adjustments to the Operating Budget Options as follows:

1. Addition of a Road Safety Audit Operating Option; and
2. Addition of a Saskatoon Transit Targeted Support Worker Program Operating Option.

These changes are reflected in Appendix 1 which details the full list of operating options. This revised Appendix 1 will be forwarded to the 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Review meeting for City Council consideration.

Capital Budget Options

Since its August 16, 2023 meeting, GPC members have reviewed and prioritized the list of Capital initiatives that were presented. The Committee members ranked each initiative, and Table 1 summarizes the projects in the prioritized order. Table 1 lists the top ranked projects to utilize the majority of the \$4,400,000 in available RCE funding over the two years.

Although Table 1 includes the prioritized initiatives, City Council will debate these projects and can choose to modify the amounts for some projects, add additional projects, or remove projects at the November Business Plan and Budget Review meeting. Table 2 shows the prioritized order of the remaining projects that are below the funding cut-off.

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Table 1 – Prioritized Projects Within Funding Cut-Off

Project	2024 Amount	2025 Amount
Housing Strategy – Implementation	\$ 115,000	\$ 225,000
Universal Low-Income Subsidy Program	\$ 235,000	\$ 305,000
Meewasin Trail Expansion/Upgrades	\$ 187,500	\$ 187,500
City Yards Building and Site Maintenance	\$ 400,000	\$ 325,000
Solar Access and Orientation Review	-	\$ 300,000
Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Department – Initiatives	\$ 155,000	\$ 155,000
City of Saskatoon and U of S Research Partnership	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Regional Plan Implementation	\$ 50,000	-
Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Department – Education	\$ 80,000	-
Integrated Civic Energy Management Program: Data Management, Appliance Upgrades and Training	\$ 290,000	\$ 290,000
Green Network - Natural Areas Program (Natural Area Management Plans Phase 3 and Natural Area Policy and Process Phase 2)	\$ 132,000	\$ 275,000
Corporate Data Governance – Capital	-	\$ 100,000
Civic Heritage Program Enhancements	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
SUBTOTAL	\$1,744,500	\$2,262,500
RCE Funding Available	\$2,000,000	\$2,400,000
RCE Funding Remaining	\$ 255,500	\$ 262,500

Table 2 – Prioritized Projects Outside Funding Cut-Off

Project	2024 Amount	2025 Amount
Saskatoon Food System: Food Action Plan	\$365,000	\$ 130,000
Increase Storage for Winter Safety Materials	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) Building Energy Benchmarking Program	\$275,000	-
Feasibility Study to Design a Climate Innovation Fund	\$350,000	-
Permanent Dedicated Scattering Location (PDSL)	\$ 55,000	\$ 246,000
West Industrial Concept Plan Expanded Scope	\$200,000	-
Smart City Program (Growing Saskatoon's Smart City Capability)	\$240,000	\$ 240,000
Refreshed District Energy (DE) Feasibility Study	\$300,000	-
Promotion and Education for Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Adoption	-	\$ 140,000

It is important to note that the Civic Heritage Program Enhancements and Saskatoon Food System: Food Action Plan had the same ranking, however, because there were not enough funds to do both in 2024, the lesser amount was included in Table 1. At the November meeting City Council can deliberate further on these and any other capital projects.

There is one change made to the capital options since the August 16, 2023 report, which is reflected in Appendix 2 and is as follows:

1. Urban Forestry Management Plan Implementation request of \$130,000 in each of 2024 and 2025 was removed from the list. The purpose of the Urban Forest and

Pest Management Capital Reserve was expanded at the [August 30, 2023 City Council Meeting](#) resulting in the removal of the RCE funding request for this project as detailed in that report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications of each option are shown in Appendices 1 and 2.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

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

NEXT STEPS

Operating Budget Options

The revised information within Appendix 1 will be forwarded to the 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Review. City Council can choose to add or phase-in any initiative on the list or any other priority initiative to the 2024/2025 Budget.

Capital Budget Options

This report and the revised information within Appendix 2 will be forwarded to the 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Review where City Council can deliberate on the prioritized list as well as any other capital initiatives that City Council wishes to add to the budget.

APPENDICES

1. 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Operating Options
2. 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Capital Options

REPORT APPROVAL

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