

## Recommended Business Plan Options

### ISSUE

Due to the time it takes to create the 2024/2025 Preliminary Budget Document, only decisions made up until the end of August will be reflected in the Budget Document. Additional decisions can be made; however, these will be communicated via a report as changes to the 2024/2025 Preliminary Budget Document. To ensure the document is reflective of as many changes as possible, the Administration is bringing forward all of the remaining Business Line recommended options that impact the property tax for early consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Governance and Priorities Committee direct Administration to include the options totalling \$3,034,200 in 2024 and \$554,200 in 2025 as outlined in Appendix 1 of this report in the 2024/2025 Preliminary Business Plan and Budget.

### BACKGROUND

At the [July 25, 2023](#) and the [August 15, 2023](#) Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) special budget meetings, Committee made numerous decisions that impacted the 2024 and 2025 projected funding gap.

In total \$22.7 million and \$1.6 million in decisions were made to reduce the funding gap. These decisions along with Administrative changes to Saskatoon Transit and Franchise Fee revenue projections have reduced the funding gap to \$26.2 and \$19.3 million in 2024 and 2025 respectively.

### DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Preparation of the Preliminary Business Plan and Budget document which is utilized to inform decision making at November deliberations takes a significant amount of coordination and staff resources to prepare. To achieve an early November release of this document, only changes made up until the end of August will be incorporated into the document. While additional decisions can be made after August, these will be not be incorporated into the document and instead will be identified through an accompanying report to the budget document.

This approach can be difficult for some of the public to follow, therefore the Administration's goal is to get as many changes as possible into the production of the 2024/2025 Preliminary Business Plan and Budget document. Through previous meetings, the recommended options have mostly been approved and brought some of the most significant reductions to the funding gap. As such and to ensure all recommended options that impact the property tax are considered, the Administration has prepared this report, so the recommended options are considered first, prior to the business line reports. Note that the Utilities Business Line is not included in this report as the options in that report generally do not impact the property tax.

## **Recommended Business Plan Options**

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Once the recommended options are considered, the Administration's recommended process is to continue through each of the presented Business Lines to see if any other options are brought forward by Committee members.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The financial implications of this report will be deliberated at the 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Deliberations meeting.

### **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

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

### **NEXT STEPS**

Any direction from Committee on this report will be incorporated into the 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget process. Decisions for 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget will be made by City Council during the budget deliberation meeting which will be held on November 28 to 30, 2023 where the budget implications of all business lines will be deliberated.

### **APPENDICES**

1. Business Line Recommended Options

### **REPORT APPROVAL**

Written by: Clae Hack, Chief Financial Officer

Approved by: Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

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