

City Centre Plan - Capital Project 2458

Project Description

This project will lead to the development of a new City Centre Plan to replace the Downtown Plan from 2000. The preparation of the City Centre Plan is occurring in four phases, including:

- 1) The Public Spaces, Activity and Urban Form Strategic Framework (completed in 2011);
- 2) Community engagement as part of the Saskatoon Speaks Visioning Project (completed in 2011);
- 3) The development and adoption of the new City Centre Plan (completed in 2013); and
- 4) The Master Plan for the Civic Plaza Precinct.

Prior Budget Approval

\$250,000 - Phase 1 - Public Spaces, Activity and Urban Form Strategic Framework (completed in 2011)

\$250,000 - Phase 3 - City Centre Plan (completed in 2013)

\$250,000 – Phase 4 – Master Plan for Civic Plaza Precinct (funding approved in 2015)

Phase 2 of this process, Community Engagement, was part of the Community Visioning Project #2416 and was completed in 2011.

General Comments – As included in the 2015 Capital Project Request

The City of Saskatoon's Downtown and connected commercial districts are undergoing fundamental change. With River Landing, new housing, new streetscape enhancement, and new transit and library facilities, Saskatoon's city centre will look and feel very different in the future. The new City Centre Plan will shape the expectations of the community, create a platform for builders to develop future projects, and clearly articulate the vision for Saskatoon's City Centre and its place in the region.

The geographic scope of the project focuses on the Central Business District as defined in the City's Official Community Plan, as well as adjacent districts such as the City Yards, Broadway, 20th Street, College Drive, the MVA trail system, and the area lying between Idylwyld Drive and Avenue D from south of the railway tracks to 19th Street.

The third phase, development of the new City Centre Plan, was endorsed by City Council in late 2013 and implementation is now underway.

Phase 4 will commence in 2015 with the development of a Master Plan for a new Civic Plaza which includes consideration for Rapid Transit, New Library and a Public Gathering Place. Design of the new Civic Plaza will be done in-house with external resources for public engagement. Funding will be requested for the construction of the Civic Plaza, anticipated to begin in 2016 and continue in 2017, and for the construction of a public parking structure in the City Centre in 2017.

Other implementation projects include pedestrian improvements, a new entryway to the Meewasin Valley Authority trail on 23rd Street, and other projects identified in the City Centre Plan Implementation and Priority Strategy.