
Parks and Recreation Levy and Community Centre Levy - Rates - 2018

Recommendation

That the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services recommend to City Council:

1. That adjustments to the 2018 Parks and Recreation Levy rate, as outlined in this report, be approved; and
2. That the 2018 Community Centre Levy rates for each developing neighbourhood, as outlined in this report, be approved.

Topic and Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the proposed 2018 rates for both the Parks and Recreation Levy and the Community Centre Levy.

Report Highlights

1. The proposed 2018 Parks and Recreation Levy rates have been adjusted to reflect the changes for park construction costs.
2. The proposed 2018 Community Centre Levy rates have been adjusted to reflect the changes in the cost of land.

Strategic Goal

Under the Strategic Goal of Quality of Life, this report supports the long-term strategy of ensuring existing and future leisure centres and other recreation facilities are accessible, physically and financially, and meet community needs.

Background

The City of Saskatoon (City) established the Parks and Recreation Levy as a means to fund neighbourhood local parks (including core neighbourhood parks, neighbourhood pocket parks, village squares, and linear parks), district parks, multi-district parks, and approved recreation facilities.

At its August 15, 2012 meeting, City Council approved a single, blended City-wide formula for the calculation of the Community Centre Levy, beginning with the Kensington neighbourhood and all new neighbourhoods. The calculation of the Community Centre Levy is based on the year-to-year cost of acquiring 8.0 acres of potential school-site property in each developing neighbourhood.

Report

Parks and Recreation Levy

The proposed 2018 Parks and Recreation Levy rate includes a \$13.85 per front metre (3.4%) increase. Table 1 summarizes the proposed Parks and Recreation Levy rate changes for 2018.

Table 1: Parks and Recreation Levy Rate Changes

	2017 Approved Rate	2018 Proposed Rate	Rate Change
Neighbourhood Parks	\$275.75	\$284.20	\$ 8.45
District Parks	\$103.30	\$107.30	\$ 4.00
Multi-District Parks	\$ 27.95	\$ 29.35	\$ 1.40
Total	\$407.00	\$420.85	\$13.85

The increase in the neighbourhood and district parks rate relates to the increase in park construction due to the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) changes. The change in the multi-district park rate is for the addition of a Satellite Maintenance Building in the Elk Point neighbourhood.

Satellite Maintenance Buildings are an essential element of new park development and, as such, require funding from the Parks and Recreation Levy. The Satellite Maintenance Building in Elk Point will serve to support the recommendations from the Parks' Civic Service Review by localizing maintenance activities to improve staff and equipment productivity, customer service, and employee safety.

Community Centre Levy

Calculation of the Community Centre Levy is based on the cost of acquiring 8.0 acres of land for potential school-site property in each developing neighbourhood. The proposed Community Centre Levy rates are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2: Community Centre Levy Rate Changes

	2017 Approved Rate	2018 Proposed Rate	Rate Change
Rosewood Neighbourhood	\$140.65	\$107.50	(\$33.15)
Stonebridge Neighbourhood	\$123.30	\$123.30	\$ 0.00
Evergreen Neighbourhood	\$192.10	\$192.10	\$ 0.00
Future Neighbourhoods	\$186.00	\$165.00	(\$21.00)

The Community Centre Levy rates for the Rosewood, Stonebridge, and Evergreen neighbourhoods were established based on individual neighbourhoods before the single, blended rate policy changed. Each of these neighbourhoods has a unique rate, primarily due to variations in the size of the neighbourhoods. With amendments to the Rosewood Neighbourhood Concept Plan and no change to the determined cost that is being collected, the Community Centre Levy rate for Rosewood can be reduced from \$140.65 to \$107.50 per front metre.

The Community Centre Levy rate for future neighbourhoods will be applied to new neighbourhoods, including Kensington, Brighton, Elk Point, Aspen Ridge, and all future neighbourhoods. The proposed 2018 Community Centre Levy rate of \$165.00 has been adjusted from \$186.00 to reflect the changes in the cost of land.

Options to the Recommendation

City Council could choose to not approve the recommendation; further direction would then be required.

Public and/or Stakeholder Involvement

The new levy rates were tabled for comments with the land developers during the October 11, 2018 Developers Liaison Committee meeting. The land developers asked questions and received clarification on the proposed Parks and Recreation Levy and Community Centre Levy rates adjustments.

Communication Plan

A communication plan is not applicable, as the land developers have been informed of the proposed 2018 rates for both the Parks and Recreation Levy and the Community Centre Levy. Of note, these rates came into effect January 1, 2018, and any servicing work that has been charged at 2017 rates will be adjusted. Although servicing work is primarily done in the spring and summer, most of the billing occurs later in the year.

Financial Implications

The financial implications have been outlined in this report.

Other Considerations/Implications

There are no policy, environmental, privacy, or CPTED implications or considerations.

Due Date for Follow-up and/or Project Completion

No follow-up is required at this time.

Public Notice

Public notice, pursuant to Section 3 of Policy No. C01-021, Public Notice Policy, is not required.

Report Approval

Written by: Brad Babyak, Section Manager, Open Space Programming and Development
Reviewed by: Lynne Lacroix, Director of Recreation and Community Development
Approved by: Randy Grauer, General Manager, Community Services Department

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