



GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

TCU Place / SaskTel Centre Market Analysis

Recommendation of the Committee

1. That the Administration be directed to include a future Arena/convention centre when planning the future of Saskatoon's Downtown;
2. That the focus of the planning work include consideration of an entertainment district, not just an arena and/or convention facility;
3. That the Administration report back on terms of reference for a process for identifying the best location for a future entertainment district and how it would fit into a wider vision for a strong downtown for the future;

That this process include strategic stakeholder engagement with community partners including consideration of:

- o Demands on Infrastructure
 - o Transit
 - o Parking
 - o Future residential growth
 - o Optimal location in relation to other key destination in the downtown including
 - o River Landing
 - o Midtown Plaza,
 - o North Downtown
 - o All Business Improvement Districts
 - o Adjacent residential neighbourhoods
 - o Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce
 - o NSBA;
4. That one of the overall principles be to seek approaches that minimize the reliance on Property taxes to pay for this arena; and
 5. That the approach also recognize that while the City of Saskatoon has a leadership role, it will take collaboration with stakeholders and the community as a whole to come up with the best solution.

History

The Governance and Priorities Committee, at its meeting held on November 13, 2018, further considered the above matter and received for information two reports from the Administration, as attached.



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Your Committee received presentations from Mr. Will Lofdahl, SaskTel Centre, and Mr. Randy Pshebylo, Riversdale Business Improvement District. Mr. Lofdahl indicated that it is critical to plan for the future of these types of facilities given the competitive nature of the business and urged Committee to continue to work for a long-term plan. Mr. Pshebylo expressed the importance of the location of TCU Place to the Riversdale Business Improvement District and requests that if City Council determines a centrally located facility, that the BID be included in the discussions. Committee also received a letter submitting comments from Mr. Wayne Neff (Attachment 3).

In addition to the recommendations put forward above, your Committee requested the Administration to report back to Council on a process to provide City Council with an opportunity to engage in a prioritization activity and financial overlook of potential capital pressures.

Attachment(s)

1. Report of the CFO/General Manager, Asset and Financial Management Department dated November 13, 2018 – 'Financing Options New or Renovated Arena and Convention Centre'
2. Report of the General Manager, Community Services Department dated November 13, 2018 – 'Considerations for the TCU Place and SaskTel Centre Project'
3. Letter submitting comments – Wayne Neff, dated November 8, 2018