

Capital Project 2458 Scope - City Centre Plan

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.

In 2018, the scope of work was adjusted to allocate a portion of the existing funding, up to \$125,000, to support implementation of initiatives through a grant program with the Downtown YXE BID. This grant program is active in 2019.

As of 2019, approximately \$90,000 to \$100,000 remains available to fund outstanding work.

General Comments

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.

Existing Phase 4 Scope

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.

Proposed New Scope of Work for Phase 4

Phase 4 is proposed to consist of an update to the City Centre Plan to occur in 2019, and produce an Action Plan.

The Action Plan will include an update on implementation to date of the recommendations of the City Centre Plan, the incorporation of any new ideas that have emerged since 2013, and a prioritization of all items in order to identify an Action Plan for the next 5 years. This project requires funds for Engagement and Communications, legal review, as well as technical supporting work. Should there be funds remaining at project completion, implementation of some items identified in the Action Plan may be considered at that time.