



GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

Saskatoon Public Library – Business Case

Recommendation of the Committee

That the matter be referred to the Saskatoon Public Library Board requesting a report:

1. based on the proposal and the programming design, on the impact to branch libraries, what services (if any) will be duplicated by the new library and its programming, and if the library will be competing with any component of private sector such as room rentals; and
2. on the comparison of the proposal in relation to having some administration and housing of collection in other areas of the city that are less expensive.

History

The Governance and Priorities Committee, at its meeting held on September 23, 2019, was provided with a presentation on the Business Case for a new central library by Ms. Lisa Erikson, Chair, Saskatoon Public Library Board and Ms. Carol Cooley, Director of Libraries and CEO.

At this time, your Committee is recommending City Council refer the matter to the Library Board. Based on the proposal and the programming design, a report is requested on the impact to branch libraries, what services (if any) will be duplicated by the new library and its programming, and if the library will be competing with any component of private sector such as room rentals. In addition, the report should also touch on the comparison of the proposal in relation to having some administration and housing of collection in other areas of the city that are less expensive.

Your Committee also requested the following:

- the Administration to submit a report to the Governance and Priorities Committee on the library business plan encompassing all factors in the review: Financial, Environment, Community Well-Being and Reconciliation and further to also include details on the impact to the City's debt level and future ability to borrow, mill-rate impact and any impact on the City's credit rating for future years before the 2020/2021 Preliminary Business Plan and Budget.
- given the City's experience with two new major facilities, the Remail Modern and the new police station, the Administration submit a report on the Saskatoon Public Library's business case, in particular, the estimates in the business case related to construction and operation of the facility itself.



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- the Administration to report back on open spaces in Saskatoon, for example, inventory, demand and availability, comparisons, projections and any other information that would be useful and relevant in determining what the city requires moving forward to accommodate the need of the citizens of Saskatoon.

Attachment

September 17, 2019 Letter and information package from Carol Cooley, Director of Libraries & CEO, Saskatoon Public Library