Minute No. 282
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – February 18, 2014

Item No. 15 Establishment of Three Spray Pads and a Park Playground Enhancement Capital Program Budget

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and adopted the following:

1. That the establishment of a 2014 capital program budget for the design and construction of three spray pads (Island Lakes, Waverley Heights, and Sun Valley communities) and one playground development (Royalwood), as funded by the Province of Manitoba in the amount of $1.6 million, be approved.

2. That the application of corporate administration overhead be waived for this capital program.

3. That the development of straight-to-drain spray pads systems for stand-alone wading pool and splash pad sites be approved.

4. That the incremental water and sewer costs for all straight-to-drain spray pads be contributed by the Water and Waste utility.

5. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Browaty,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 19, 2014, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 18, 2014, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Establishment of Three Spray Pads and a Park Playground Enhancement Capital Program Budget

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development - Executive Policy Committee - Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
J. Kiernan	B. Thorgrimson	M. Ruta	D. Joshi A/CAO

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council approve the establishment of a 2014 capital program budget for the design and construction of three spray pads (Island Lakes, Waverley Heights, and Sun Valley communities) and one playground development (Royalwood), as funded by the Province of Manitoba in the amount of $1.6 million.

2. That the application of corporate administration overhead be waived for this capital program.

3. That Council approve the development of straight-to-drain spray pads systems for stand-alone wading pool and splash pad sites.

4. That the incremental water and sewer costs for all straight-to-drain spray pads be contributed by the Water and Waste utility.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

Council approval is required to establish Capital Project and/or Program Budgets.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- A budget for a spray pad and park enhancements capital program will be established.
- No additional City of Winnipeg capital funding is required as the project is 100% funded by a Provincial contribution.
- The City of Winnipeg shall assume all future long-term operations and maintenance costs.
- The Water and Waste Department will contribute through their operating budget the provision of water and sewer service charges for wading pools and spray pads as a public service.

HISTORY

In November 2012, the City Councillors for St. Boniface, St. Norbert and North Kildonan Wards received letters from the Minister of Local Government confirming capital support from the Province of Manitoba for a new spray pad in each of the wards.

On February 13, 2013, the Province of Manitoba confirmed in writing $1.6 million for three new spray pads in the Waverley Heights, Island Lakes and Sun Valley neighbourhoods and one new playground in the Royalwood neighbourhood.

On June 24, 2013, the Winnipeg Public Service sent a communication to Provincial staff indicating that an additional $150,000 per spray pad would be required in order to develop re-circulation and water treatment systems necessary to provide a sustainable and environmentally responsive facility operation.

On July 24, 2013, the Province of Manitoba responded indicating it would not provide the additional capital support to fully fund recirculation systems for these projects.

Discussion:

Since 2004, the City of Winnipeg has developed a total of 13 spray pads at various locations. Many of the initial spray pads were straight-to-drain facilities, which take water direct from the City water main and dump directly into the sewer system (Provencher, St. Norbert, Ft. Rouge, and River East). This practice is very costly in terms of water usage and related operating costs ($20,000 to $40,000 per year /site).

In order to reduce water consumption and operating costs, several stand-alone spray pad developments have been built utilizing water re-circulation and treatment systems (Vimy, Norquay, and Central Park). These sites are cost effective in terms of operational costs, but do require water testing by trained City staff at least every two hours to meet Provincial Health requirements. Further, the Province is currently developing new Public Health standards for

pools and spray pads, which may require the dumping of water from re-circulation system holding tanks on a weekly or even daily basis, significantly impacting the business case for these water conservation systems.

More recently (St. James Centennial, Westdale), the City has strived to co-locate new spray pad developments with existing aquatic facilities (indoor pools and outdoor pools), in order to provide integrated re-circulation and water treatment systems and utilizing the expertise of on-site staff for operation and water quality testing.

As most new spray pads have been constructed without any increase to operating budgets, Community Services Department has balanced the operating budget by reducing hours at existing low attendance wading pool sites to offset increased operating costs. Older wading pool sites within the same catchment area have been closed, when possible, in conjunction with the opening of new spray pads in order to balance operating costs while providing an enhanced play experience.

Moving forward, it is recommended that the City continue to strive to co-locate new spray pads with existing aquatic facilities to provide integrated systems and staffing, as well as a more diverse water play experience for the public. In instances where only a stand-alone spray pad facility is possible, it is recommended that these sites be developed as straight-to-drain facilities to ensure water quality and public safety.

The proposed three new stand-alone spray pads to be funded by the Province of Manitoba, shall be developed as straight-to-drain facilities, with water and sewer costs assumed by the Water and Waste Department.

As water and sewer charges for these sites are an internal charge between City Departments, it is recommended that incremental water and sewer costs for all straight-to-drain spray pads be assumed by the Water and Waste utility.

The establishment of the $1.6 million Capital budget for these three spray pads and one playground will allow for the Public Service to proceed with project planning and development of formal requests for proposals for construction in advance of the 2014 construction season.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** January 24, 2014

Project Name: **First Year of Program** **2014**

Establishment of a Spray Pad and Playground Park Enhancements Capital Program Budget

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ 1,200,000	$ 400,000	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ 1,200,000	$ 400,000	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Cash-to-Capital	$ -		$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Province of Manitoba	1,200,000	400,000	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ 1,200,000	$ 400,000	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ 1,600,000				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	-	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: The recommendation is that a 2014 capital budget be established for Spray Pad and Playground Enhancements as set out in this report. The budget of $1.6 million is fully funded by a contribution from the Province of Manitoba. The recommendations also include the waiving of the 1% ($16,000) in corporate admin fees. For the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that expenditures of the 2014 budget will occur over 2014 and 2015 in the amounts of $1,200,000 and $400,000 respectively. Future long-term operating and maintenance costs have been excluded as they are not reasonably estimable at this time.

"Original signed by"
Mike McGinn, CA
Manager of Finance

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:

Corporate Finance Department
Community Services Department
Water and Waste Department

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Planning, Property and Development
Division: Urban Design
Prepared by: John Kiernan, Manager
Date: January 27, 2013
File No.

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