South Winnipeg Action Team

for improved recreation infrastructure and services

Pursuing the development of a recreation campus in South Winnipeg

November 18, 2015

Objectives Today

South Winnipeg Action Team
for improved recreation infrastructure and services

- Understand who SWAT represents
- Understand the current problem
- Urge the city to provide funding for feasibility study
- Ensure land is made available for recreation
- Recommend a governance structure

THIS PROBLEM CAN NOT WAIT FOR ANOTHER PROTRACTED ‘CITY WIDE’ STUDY.

Who is SWAT and what is its membership?

South Winnipeg Action Team
for improved recreation infrastructure and services

- Umbrella organization representing 50,000+ residents and all key recreation stakeholder organizations in South Winnipeg

- Formal governance structure endorsed by the following organizations:
  - South Winnipeg Community Centre (Fort Richmond, Richmond West, Waverley Heights, Waverley West)
  - St. Norbert Community Centre
  - Manitoba Islamic Association
  - Manitoba Chinese Community Centre
  - Pembina Active Living 55+
  - Riel Advisory Group

  - Richmond West Neighbourhood Association
  - Bridgewater Lakes Neighbourhood Association
  - Bridgewater Forest Neighbourhood Association
  - South Pointe Neighbourhood Association

Understanding the problem

- South Winnipeg does not have adequate recreational infrastructure
  - No gym space outside of schools – can not support basketball , volleyball, etc
  - Limited meeting space available to community groups
  - PAL 55 programming relying on church basement

- This problem was identified in the GCWCC 2025 report which was published in April 2009
  - Service levels were below the City's established Recreation Leisure & Library Facilities (RLLF) policy before construction of Waverley West neighbourhoods
  - Existing facilities are aging and are not adequate to meet the needs of the City's most rapidly growing community
  - Waverley West has grown much quicker than expected – and this has accelerated the problem.

GENERAL COUNCIL GCWCC WINNIPEG COMMUNITY CENTRES

PLAN 2025

APRIL 2009

Understanding the problem

- The recreation infrastructure **deficit is equivalent to at least 3.5 traditional community centers in addition to required library, emergency services and transit investments**

- This is impacting the delivery of services to many groups in the area:
  - Children
  - Seniors
  - New Canadians

- This an urgent problem that requires action
  - The city needs to champion this project and push for Provincial and Federal support asap

Richmond King Site – Silverstone (Fort Richmond)



- Ice surface – operates Sept 1 to March 31 for hockey / ringette. Lacrosse utilizes some space in balance of the year.
- Outdoor pleasure skating rink
- Small boardroom – accommodates max of 12 people
- Storage for sports equipment
- 2 small baseball / softball fields

Richmond King Site – Silverstone (Fort Richmond)





- Main Hall – 2,200 sq st, 200 people max, pilates, karate, senior fitness, pre teen dances. Limited use due to parking restrictions.
- Mezzanine – 900 sq ft, 45 people max, dance classes. Limited use for seniors due to lack of elevator

Waverley Heights site



- Outdoor rinks – 3 rinks, two that can be used for outdoor hockey practice, one is used for pleasure skating.

- Two small baseball diamonds
- Two mini soccer fields

Waverley Heights site



- Main hall (3,800 sq ft), used for daycare by day, socials and birthday parties on weekends, Taekwondo, dog training
  - Fully utilized space – can not meet current demand





- Board room (630 sq ft)– Family centre, prayer groups, bridge club

- Sunroom (600 sq ft) – daycare, meetings

Developing a showcase regional campus as the hub of a coordinated approach for the entire community

- All stakeholders believe the traditional community centre is no longer a viable strategy

- Braid report indicates broad consensus to pursue the development of a regional recreation campus
  - Pursue synergies and cost savings with Pembina Trails School Division and through alignment of City investments in libraries, transit and emergency services
  - Investigate opportunities to leverage a relationship YM/YWCA Manitoba
  - Reposition or redevelop existing recreation facilities (eg. Margaret Grant, existing CCs)
  - Lower overall construction costs through shared infrastructure and servicing investments
  - Requires access to transit

- Take steps to establish a bold new vision for the delivery of recreation services that is current, relevant and in line with service expectations

- Drive the planning, design, development and operations together with SWAT

Developing a showcase regional campus as the hub of a coordinated approach for the entire community

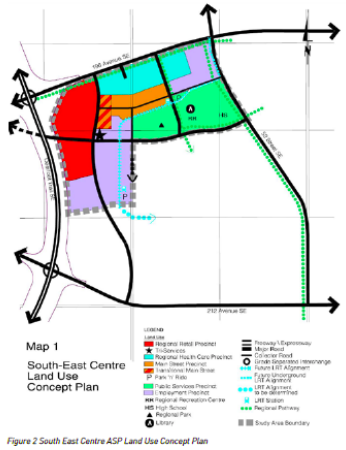
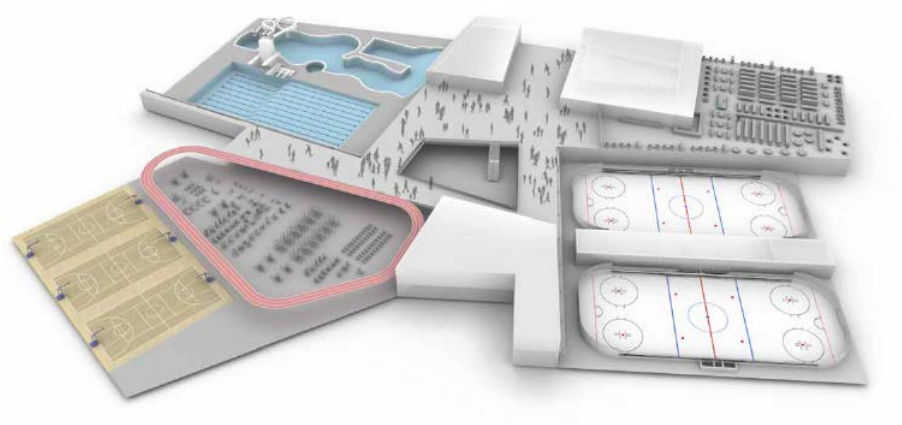


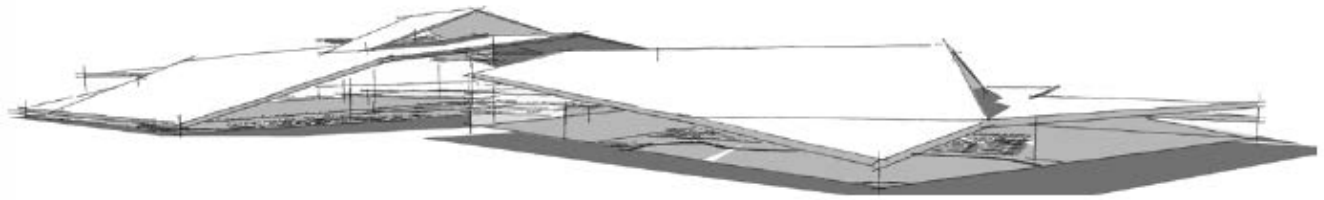
Figure 2 South East Centre ASP Land Use Concept Plan



- Pursue excellence like other communities:
  - Calgary
  - Edmonton
  - London
  - Saskatoon



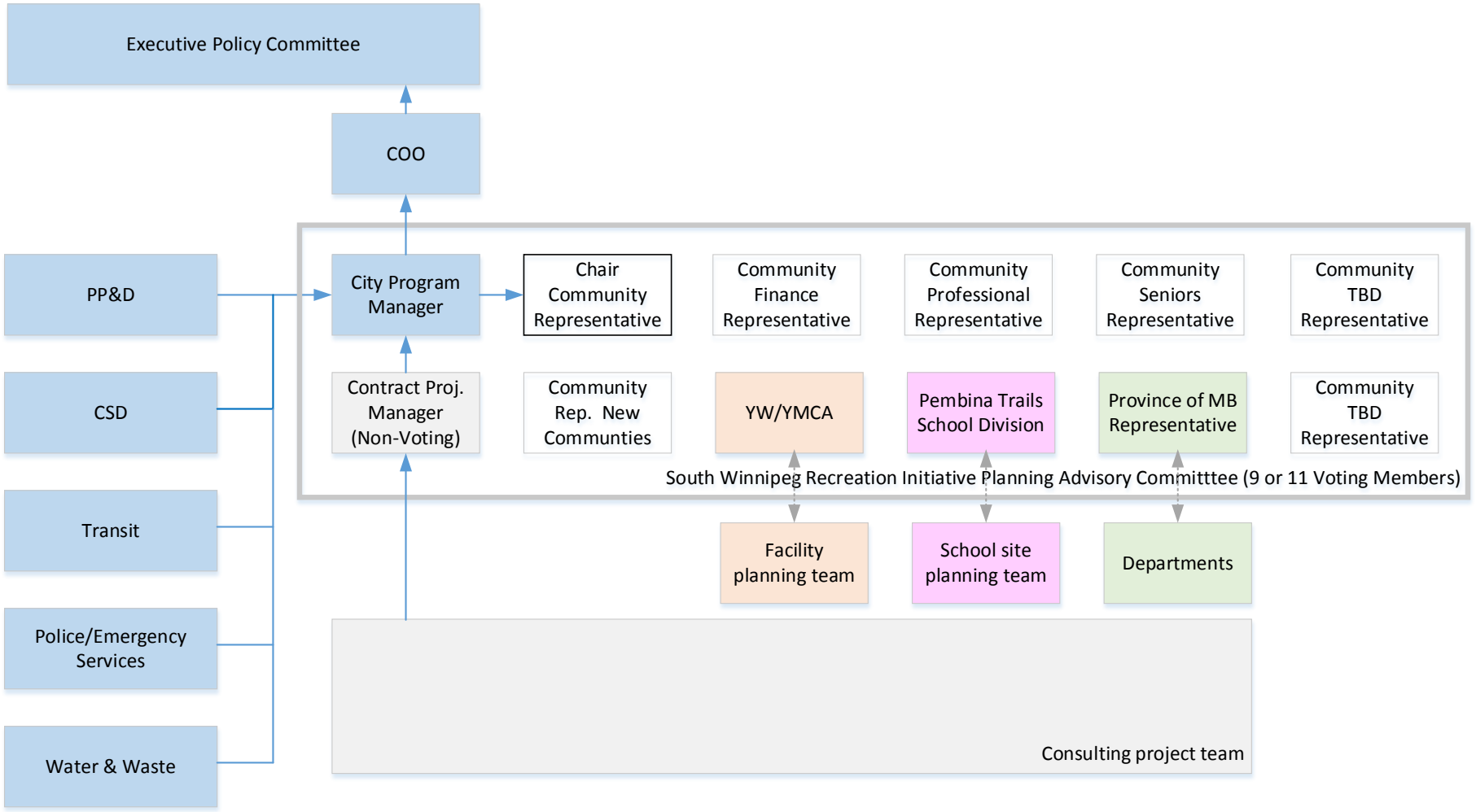




What we need from you……

- Support to make this project a priority for the City of Winnipeg
  - Confirm financial support to initiate the planning and feasibility work recommended in the Braid Solutions report
  - Project must be a council priority through EPC or a similar body
    - Not just recreation, need to consider Transit, Library, etc…
  - Establish a governance structure that includes the community stakeholders
  - Establish/define clear expectations for timeframes and delivery
- Secure land required for recreation facility(ies) ASAP.
- Support moving the leadership and direction for the initiative to the community stakeholders through SWAT
- Work with us to get this program to a “shovel ready” state
  - Priority for discussion with Provincial and Federal governments
  - Confirm City’s responsibility to provide basic infrastructure to the level of established City policies

Appendix: A different governance approach



- Community led and driven
- City provides:
  - Feasibility funding support
  - Program manager to coordinate input of departments
- Engage consulting resources reporting to an integrated program team