

G) Community Visioning Initiative
(File No. CC 100-1)

- RECOMMENDATION:**
- 1) that the contract for consulting services for the final remaining three stages of the Community Visioning initiative be awarded to Urban Strategies Inc./Crosby Hanna & Associates at an upset limit of \$401,000, plus applicable taxes;
 - 2) that the source of funding for the additional \$300,000 be \$200,000 from the FCM grant, subject to approval of the application; and \$100,000 from the 2009 year-end surplus; and,
 - 3) that the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the appropriate contract and that His Worship the Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to execute the agreement under the Corporate Seal.

BACKGROUND

On December 14, 2009, City Council approved Administration to proceed with a community engagement plan for the City of Saskatoon's Community Visioning initiative. In addition, City Council approved the reallocation of \$400,000 from the Transportation Infrastructure Expansion Reserve to fund the plan.

As Saskatoon continues to grow and the issues facing us become more complex, we recognize the need and value of engaging our citizens on a community-wide basis. The engagement process will be designed in a manner that offers a unique opportunity for the community to talk about their aspirations and ambitions for our future Saskatoon. The Community Visioning initiative will put a growth strategy and plan in place to grow our community to 500,000 people. The intent is to adopt a vision of our future that is clear, forward thinking, sustainable, inclusive, and desirable to residents. The vision is one current and future residents will be able to embrace and collectively aspire to achieve over the next 50 to 70 years as Saskatoon grows.

REPORT

On March 29, 2010, the Executive Committee approved Administration to proceed with Urban Strategies Inc./Crosby Hanna & Associates to prepare a detailed phased work plan, schedule, and budget for the City of Saskatoon Community Visioning initiative.

Attachment 1 is the Draft Community Visioning Engagement Plan that Administration and Urban Strategies Inc./Crosby Hanna & Associates have jointly prepared. It provides

a summary of the engagement tools and methods that are being considered for the Community Visioning initiative.

During the week of May 10, 2010, the Administration worked with Urban Strategies Inc./Crosby Hanna & Associates to conduct preliminary working sessions; provide a city tour; collect and review baseline data; and prepare a detailed phased work plan, schedule and budget for the City of Saskatoon Community Visioning initiative.

Subject to City Council's approval, the Administration will request the consultant to submit a detailed phased work plan, schedule, and project budget. The work plan will contain a number of milestone decision points to assess value for dollars being spent prior to proceeding to another phase.

OPTIONS

The option is to not pursue a Community Visioning initiative and to proceed with separate community engagement discussions on individual civic plans including the Master Future Growth, Transportation, City Centre, Culture Plan, and Environmental initiatives. This is not a recommended option as these discussions would no longer be integrated into the framework of a Community Visioning initiative. Therefore, the focus would shift away from how to achieve desired community results to a conversation about how to implement specific plans.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

On December 14, 2009, City Council approved the reallocation of \$400,000 from the Transportation Infrastructure Expansion Reserve to fund the Community Visioning initiative under Capital Project #2011.

The total expenditures associated with this project are \$700,000. Administration is recommending that Urban Strategies Inc./Crosby Hanna & Associates provide the requisite consultant services for the Community Visioning initiative. The cost of the consultation for the first stage was \$34,000. The cost of the remaining consultation stages will be an upset level of \$401,000, plus applicable taxes. Additional project costs for the project manager, marketing and promotions, communications, logistics, facility rentals, and contingency fees are \$265,000.

Administration is also in the process of applying for FCM funding through the Green Municipal Fund for approximately \$200,000. Other municipalities have been successful in receiving funding through this grant for similar Community Visioning initiatives.

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

The stakeholder involvement is described within the attachment.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION PLAN

The public communication plan is described within the attachment.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice pursuant to Section 3 of Policy No. C01-021, Public Notice Policy, is not required.

ATTACHMENT

1. Draft Community Visioning Engagement Plan (May 10, 2010)

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Approved by: _____
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City Manager
Date: _____