

## 2019 Reserve for Capital Expenditures Options

### Overview

In addition to operating contributions, as outlined in Attachment 2, Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) has the option to allocate capital, or one-time funding, to specific projects in order to achieve City Council's strategic priorities. The Reserve for Capital Expenditures (RCE) is governed by the Capital Reserve Bylaw (Bylaw No. 6774) and is typically utilized to fund capital projects that relate to the strategic priorities.

It is currently estimated that a total of \$2.45 million will be available in 2019 for City Council to allocate towards capital projects.

The Administration has been working diligently over the past several months, developing options for GPC that will progress the City of Saskatoon (City) towards achieving several strategic priorities. A total of \$2.4 million in potential RCE projects have been identified in the table below. GPC would have the option of funding all projects, adding new projects that aren't included in the listing, or leaving unspent funding in RCE for future initiatives.

<b>Environmental Leadership</b>	
<b>Strategic Outcome:</b> <i>Green infrastructure is identified and managed for the benefit of current and future generations.</i>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<p>GPC has the option to allocate funding towards the development of a Green Infrastructure Strategy. This funding would be utilized to develop an integrated approach to planning and maintaining a biodiverse city, one in which natural areas and other green and open spaces are considered important infrastructure.</p> <p>Specifically, this project will create a baseline inventory linked to the City's current green infrastructure and a 25-year action plan to ensure green infrastructure is properly protected, maintained and considered as the City continues to grow and evolve.</p>	\$260,000
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<p>The Natural Capital Asset Valuation is a process of creating an inventory of the City's natural capital and systematically applying a financial value to this inventory, similar to the process currently applied to tangible capital assets.</p> <p>This valuation will enable the City to identify the effect of operations and capital projects on natural assets, how to mediate risk to these assets, and how to incorporate natural assets as an alternative to built infrastructure. The process of creating the valuation framework is underway and has been partially funded through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. The application of the framework will be ongoing as part of City operations to deliver a comprehensive asset management framework.</p>	\$196,000

Initiative	Amount
<p>In response to Cottony Ash Psyllid in 2017, the City required extensive withdrawal from applicable reserves, drawing most available balances down to \$0. Approximately 1,000 infected trees were removed; however, funding to replant these trees currently does not exist.</p> <p>GPC has the option to allocate RCE funds in order to facilitate and expedite the replanting of these trees. Included in Attachment 2 is a sustainable operating fund contribution to mitigate future risk and RCE contributions.</p>	\$423,000

<b>Sustainable Growth</b>	
<b>Strategic Outcome:</b> <i>Regional partnerships provide the best opportunities for sustainable prosperity and quality of life.</i>	
Initiative	Amount
<p>Green Network Refinement - The P4G partners are in the process of engaging Saskatoon Water to complete a pilot project for a key portion of the Green Network Study Area north of Saskatoon and south of Osler. The pilot project will delineate the flood boundary based on a 1:100 storm event. This project will compile data on significant wetlands and riparian areas, significant ecological areas and landscape connections, and the Wanuskewin Heritage Park view shed. Taken with the results of the pilot project, it will result in a precise boundary being defined for the portion of the green network in the pilot project area.</p> <p>The option includes the City's one-third contribution to the project.</p>	\$66,700

<b>Quality of Life</b>	
<b>Strategic Outcome:</b> <i>Citizens are engaged in a welcoming place and enjoy a range of opportunities.</i>	
Initiative	Amount
<p>GPC has the option to provide additional resources to the current Truth and Reconciliation initiatives. As the list of initiatives related to Truth and Reconciliation continues to grow, a need for a temporary resource is required in order to address these in a timely manner.</p> <p>This one-year temporary position would be involved in community projects, policy &amp; procedure review and ongoing support for Truth and Reconciliation initiatives.</p>	\$100,000

<b>Strategic Outcome:</b> <i>Recreation and cultural facilities are accessible, physically and financially, and meet community needs.</i>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<p>GPC has the option to allocate funding to support the continuation of activities for the WinterCityYXE program. This funding would be utilized to continue the work on the lighting project as well as development of further pilot projects and communication initiatives.</p> <p>If approved, a future report will be presented to outline specific initiatives to be undertaken.</p>	\$250,000
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<p>As the City continues to grow and festivals such as Taste of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Jazz Festival continue ongoing success, there is a need to investigate options and opportunities for a permanent festival site. Access to permanent amenities could lower costs for festival organizers and lessen the environmental impact to the riverbank and associated costs.</p> <p>GPC has the option to provide funding to research potential design and location options for a permanent outdoor festival site in the City Centre.</p>	\$75,000

<b>Sustainable Growth</b>	
<b>Strategic Outcome:</b> <i>Our Plan for Growth is sustainable, through a balanced approach to land use, transportation choices and efficient servicing.</i>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<p>The Growth Plan to Half a Million Implementation requires funding for coordination, community engagement, and communication for the core initiatives. This includes the overall oversight for all components, including the Bus Rapid Transit project.</p>	\$1.230M
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<p>GPC has the option to provide funding towards a comprehensive review of the Zoning Bylaw. This would involve a review and update of the Zoning Bylaw in order to help streamline new development and provide greater certainty to adjacent projects.</p> <p>The 2019 RCE request is year one of three that would be required to complete this review.</p>	\$300,000

<b>Economic Diversity and Prosperity</b>	
<b>Strategic Outcome:</b> <i>Downtown is active and attractive to all residents and visitors.</i>	
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<p>GPC has the option to provide funding towards Phase 4 of the City Centre Plan. This funding would be utilized to complete the Streetscape work around River Landing and Parcel YY in 2019 and assist with construction management thereafter.</p>	\$85,600