

Report to Council



Date: 2 October, 2017
File: 1840-01
To: City Manager
From: Parks & Buildings Planning Manager
Subject: Parks Development – parkland acquisition and development funding strategy, Workshop 1

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives for information, the report from the Parks & Building Planning Manager dated October 2nd, 2017, with respect to Parks Development – parkland acquisition and development funding strategy workshop 1.

Purpose:

The Report to Council dated 8 May 2017 (Attachment 1) quantified the extent of undeveloped and underdeveloped parks across all park types against municipal targets, both currently and in the future. The report also identified several potential funding sources in order to address this shortfall. Following the directives arising from Council, three workshops are proposed. The workshops will be designed to follow a progression, and use consensus building exercises on key policy matters and financing tools/strategies.

Background:

The City of Kelowna is committed to providing parkland for public enjoyment and well-being, creating sports amenities to promote active living, preserving natural open space for wild flora and fauna, and developing linear greenways that create strong pedestrian and cycling connections throughout the City.

In May 2017, City Council received the Parks Development Report – A study of underdeveloped, undeveloped and future park sites (Attachment 2). The report notes that while the City acquires parkland in accordance with the Parkland Acquisition Guidelines, it has become apparent the rate of park development has not kept pace with the rate of parkland acquisition. This raises some fundamental questions of public policy which lead naturally into discussions about potential strategies and appropriate financing tools to ensure the City's parkland acquisition and development keep pace with community desires and the City's ability to fund these initiatives.

Council Engagement Process

The City has retained Urban Systems to assist in a three-workshop series with Council (in October and November 2017) with the objectives of:

2 October 2017 - Workshop 1: Engaging Council in shaping the key public policy questions to be addressed in the City's overall approach to parkland acquisition and development moving forward;

17 October 2017 – Workshop 2: Providing Council with an overview of the legislative, City policy, financial framework and financing tools associated with parkland acquisition and development; and

6 November 2017 Workshop 3: Having Council participate in aligning financing tools with specific public policy objectives and funding needs associated with parkland acquisition and development.

While some of the workshop will be oriented toward providing an overview of the City's policy framework, legislative requirements and present financial approaches, it is intended to incorporate time in the session to work with Council in articulating the key public policy questions Council would like to see addressed through this review process. Identifying these questions clearly at the outset will yield insight and better alignment with the potential strategies and financing tools recommended as outcomes for this process.

Internal circulation:

Deputy City Manager

Divisional Director, Infrastructure

Divisional Director, Community Planning & Strategic Investments

Divisional Director, Financial Services

Divisional Director, Corporate Strategic Services

Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture

Divisional Director, Corporate & Protective Services

Divisional Director, Human Resources & Corporate Performance

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Personnel implications:

Existing Policy:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Communications Comments:

Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:

R. Parlane, Manager, Parks and Buildings Planning

Approved for inclusion:



Alan Newcombe, Infrastructure Divisional Director

Attachment 1: May 8th, 2017 Report to Council – Parks Development – Underdeveloped, Undeveloped and Future Park Sites.

Attachment 2: Parks Development Report

Attachment 3: Parks Development – Funding Strategy Workshop Presentation

cc: Deputy City Manager

Divisional Director, Infrastructure

Divisional Director, Community Planning & Strategic Investments

Divisional Director, Financial Services

Divisional Director, Corporate Strategic Services

Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture

Divisional Director, Corporate & Protective Services

Divisional Director, Human Resources & Corporate Performance

City Clerk