

A) Mayfair Pool
(File No.: LS 613-5, CK 613-7)

RECOMMENDATION: that a report be submitted to City Council, recommending:

- 1) that this report be forwarded to the 2009 Capital Budget Committee for its review of Capital Project No. 1936 – Mayfair Pool; and
- 2) that the results of the public consultation process be received.

BACKGROUND

Mayfair Pool opened in July 1959 and is the oldest operating outdoor pool in Saskatoon. As it has been in operation for nearly fifty years, it has reached the expected life for this type of facility. The condition assessment by Cochrane Engineering in 2006 indicated that immediate repairs were required to address water leakage from buried piping and observed basin deficiencies. Other needed repairs would require major upgrade to the pool, meaning that the entire pool would need to be rebuilt.

During its May 5, 2009 meeting, City Council approved a community consultation process to facilitate the decision-making process regarding the future programming at the Mayfair Pool site.

This report will outline the public consultation process that was used to gather community input this fall and to report on the findings of the public input.

REPORT

Public Consultation Process

Two meetings were held, one on Tuesday evening, October 28, 2008, the second on Saturday morning, November 1, 2008. Residents were also invited to phone, e-mail, fax, or use regular mail to send in their ideas if they could not attend a public meeting.

In total about 91 people, plus Councillors Hill, Heidt, and Clark, attended the two meetings. Not everyone signed in, but of those who did (77), the neighbourhood breakdown was as follows:

- Caswell Hill – 49
- Mayfair/Hudson Bay Park – 14
- Westmount – 4
- Mount Royal – 3
- Massey Place – 2
- Holiday Park – 1
- North Park – 1
- Nutana – 1

- Silverspring – 1
- RR2 (former resident of Caswell) – 1

Some input was also received via e-mail and through letters to City Council.

At the beginning of the meeting, City of Saskatoon Administration (Catherine Gryba, Manager of Leisure Services and Ross Johnson, Manager of Facilities) made presentations summarizing the history and current condition of the pool and invited questions. Attendees then broke into several small groups for discussions facilitated by Community Development staff.

Results of the Public Input

At both meetings and through e-mail submissions, people stated clearly and emphatically that they wanted an outdoor pool rather than any other kind of facility.

Some additional amenities were suggested, but it was stated that these should not be at the expense of a pool. Several themes emerged from the input including requests for equipment in and around the pool, an environmentally friendly pool, meeting the needs of a variety of ages and target groups, and affordability. (See Attachment 1 – Summary of Input by Theme.)

2009 Operations

Some of the suggestions made through this public consultation process to enhance the overall experience at Mayfair Pool will be implemented for summer 2009. For example, the Administration is investigating the possibility of purchasing inflatable pool toys which can be temporarily installed/used at Mayfair Pool until the new facility is constructed.

The Administration is also preparing a contingency plan in the event that the infrastructure fails during summer operations at the existing pool. Transportation will be provided to take patrons to other facilities (such as the other outdoor pools) to ensure the residents, that typically use Mayfair Pool, have access to another recreation facility.

OPTIONS

There are no options.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost of replacement for an outdoor pool is estimated at \$5 million; therefore, that number has been used to determine design and future construction costs for a new facility.

The Administration has prepared Capital Project No. 1936 to be considered by the 2009 Capital Budget Committee. This project identifies \$750,000 for design in 2009, and through design the Administration will determine more accurate construction costs.

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

The City of Saskatoon invited representatives from City Park, Caswell Hill, Hudson Bay Park/Mayfair, Mount Royal, North Park/Richmond Heights, and Westmount neighbourhoods to attend a planning meeting to organize public input regarding the future of the pool.

Representatives from Caswell Hill, Westmount, and Hudson Bay Park/Mayfair neighbourhoods attended the planning meeting. Representatives provided input into the Frequently Asked Questions document, and the dates, times, and locations that would be most suitable to host the public meetings. (See Attachment 2.)

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION PLAN

Invitations to the two public input meetings, along with a set of frequently asked questions were delivered door to door in Caswell Hill, Westmount, and Hudson Bay Park/Mayfair/Kelsey-Woodlawn neighbourhoods by Friday, October 10, 2008. The invitation also included contact information (phone, e-mail, fax, regular mail) for anyone who could not attend a public meeting and wanted to send in their ideas.

Advertisements were also placed in The Star Phoenix and Saskatoon Sun on October 18 and 19, as well as notices sent to schools for their newsletters.

The results of the public consultation process have been posted on the City of Saskatoon website under "M" for Mayfair Pool, and the Administration has been directing residents to this website through notices in the community association and school newsletters.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

There is no environmental impact.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice, pursuant to Section 3 of the City of Saskatoon Policy C01-021 (Public Notice Policy), is not required.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Summary of Public Input
2. Mayfair Pool - Frequently Asked Questions

Written by: Catherine Gryba, Manager, Leisure Services Branch

Reviewed by: “Paul Gauthier”
Paul Gauthier, General Manager
Community Services Department
Dated: “November 21, 2008”

Approved by: “Phil Richards”
Phil Richards, City Manager
Dated: “November 21, 2008”