



City of Prince Albert

RPT 2025-24

TITLE: 11th Street East and Central Avenue Vacant Lot

DATE: December 16, 2024

TO: Budget Committee

PUBLIC: X

INCAMERA:

RECOMMENDATION:

That RPT 2025-24, related to the Vacant Lot located at 11th Street East and Central Avenue, be received as information and filed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The following resolution was approved at the July 22, 2024, City Council meeting:

“That Administration provide a report on the unfunded 2024 Budget item allowing access to the vacant lot located at 11th Street East and Central Avenue and provide a new cost if the city waived the fees to cut the trees down and the overall cost to prepare the lot.”

The original request related to the Vacant Lot was submitted by the Executive Director of the Prince Albert Downtown Business Improvement District in advance of the 2024 Budget Committee deliberations. As a result, the Parks Manager identified the required budgetary support to clear the Vacant Lot, level it, and prepare it for future uses.

To assess any potential for future uses of this space, a lead organization would need to submit an Operational Plan for consideration. At this time there is limited information available around the future purpose, how the space would need to be converted to support this purpose, and the associated costs on how this space would compliment the Central Avenue Streetscape Development Masterplan.

The space in its current state is a minimal operational expense to the city, it functions as a greenspace and offers functionality for several types of events until a further plan is developed by a lead community organization.

PROPOSED APPROACH AND RATIONALE:

The Vacant Lot at the corner of Central Avenue and 11th Street has been the subject of conversation for several years for its use and availability. The Central Avenue Streetscape Development Masterplan has as well shown the space and potential for future development in conjunction with that development under Section 4.4.2 – City Hall Urban Park Rendering.

The budget request submitted by the Prince Albert Business Improvement District required the removal of the trees, stump grinding, landscaping to level the site, base work, and grass planting. Once completed the site could host the City's stage for future event purposes such as the Annual Street Fair. Currently, Memorial Square located adjacent to this property serves as an event hosting space that is available to be booked by community organizations that are looking to host events in the City's Downtown Business District.

The budget is estimated at \$35,000 which would include excavation, tree removal, fabric, and new base. An additional factor is the potential requirement for power. There is also a foundation under this property so settling may be a factor once excavation begins which may lead to additional costs.

To understand the vision for the space, a partner organization is required to develop a proposal and an estimated budget to further the conversation on use of the space. A consideration may be for the city to conduct an Expression of Interest to identify a lead organization, intended uses for the site and an operational plan to assist with any future budget consideration.

Until further information is provided to the Department regarding future use, the estimated budget of \$35,000 is the amount that would cover the known factors related to the clearing and preparation of the site.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The budget is estimated at \$35,000 which would include excavation, tree removal, fabric, and new base. An additional factor is the potential requirement for power. There is also a foundation under this property so settling may be a factor once excavation begins which may lead to additional costs.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Public Notice pursuant to the Public Notice Bylaw No. 24 of 2015 is not required.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Section 4.4.2 – City Hall Urban Park Rendering

Written by: Tim Yeaman, Parks & Open Spaces Manager

Approved by: Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture and City Manager