



For Immediate Release

December 2, 2019

Council Approves Tendering For New City Operations Centre

Yorkton City Council approved tendering for a new City Operations Centre at the December 2, 2019 Council Meeting. The new building will consolidate five City operations sites, including the current Parks Department offices on Myrtle Avenue and the Public Works Yards on York Road. The new combined facility will be constructed at the current Public Works site.

“We’ve been looking at constructing a new home for Parks and Public Works for a number of years,” said Mayor Bob Maloney. “This new facility will provide much needed expanded space for both departments, as well as operational efficiencies by housing both of these departments and three other storage and operations sites together,” he said.

The original Public Works structure dates back to 1958, and both it and the Parks building were nearing the end of their life span. They had also outgrown their current facilities. However it was the recently discovered environmental issues affecting the health of staff at the Public Works site that has necessitated the critical need for a new facility.

“Environmental testing has confirmed the presence of petroleum based hydrocarbons in significant quantities at various locations throughout the site. Essentially the indoor air quality has been jeopardized by hydrocarbon vapors and long-term exposure creates potential health concerns for employees who occupy the building,” said the Mayor. “These findings have precipitated the relocation of all Public Works staff and operations over the next month,” he said. The Fleet division has already been relocated to a property on 6th Avenue North. Facility Maintenance is currently putting together a request for proposals for construction site trailers to relocate the remaining Public Works employees. These trailers will be situated at the City’s stockpile site located on 4th Avenue.

The bulk of the City’s core services will be located at the new City Operations Centre. These include: Water, Sewer, Drainage, Curbs, Sidewalks, Roadways & Streets, Signs, Traffic, Fleet Operations, Inventory, Facility Maintenance, Landfill, Garbage Collection and Recycling, Parks, Horticulture, Forestry, Outdoor Fields, Cemetery and Administration for all of these areas.

Given that this project has been planned for a long time, “funds have been set aside in previous budgets and the City can borrow up to \$14,000,000 to finance construction without having a tax increase,” said the Mayor.

The Public Works shop currently services all City equipment and the new Civic Operations Centre will include a modern and expanded shop facility. Currently Public Works also needs to rent storage space for much of its equipment off site, and the new facility will allow equipment for both Parks and Public Works to be stored at the same location.

The Tender is expected to be posted in January, 2020.

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