



STAFF REPORT

Title: Policy No. 197-RC-16 - Recreation User Fee Policy

Meeting Date: May 19, 2020

Executive Summary:

The City is committed to providing quality social and recreational programs, services and facilities for the enjoyment and benefit of the citizens. The City operates recreational facilities on a cost-recover model and collects user fees to help offset the costs of operating facilities and providing services to the public.

During the 2020 budget deliberations Council discussed user fees versus general taxation and signaled a budget that included an increase to recreation user fees.

The purpose of the report is to illustrate the impact of a five percent (5%) increase to the Recreational User Fee Policy.

Background:

The attached Appendix A - Rate Comparison illustrates a five percent (5%) increase to the Recreational User Fee Policy against the existing rates. In a typical year, the rate increase represents an estimated \$75,000 in additional revenue annually (prior to the COVID-19 Health Emergency).

Administration is also presenting the draft policy displaying the proposed changes marked in red. The bulk of the proposed amendments rest in Managerial Guidelines however administration considers it appropriate for Council to have a conversation surrounding implications to the 2020 budget resulting from the COVID-19 Health Emergency as the revenues from recreational facilities have been substantially impacted. Administration is of the opinion that the recreation fee increases should be reconsidered and perhaps implemented January 1, 2021.

Council's Corporate Priorities Committee may want to consider recommending Council to change the implementation timelines to the 5% increase to user fees.

Alternatives:

The Committee of Council may:

1. Direct administration to bring Policy No. 197-RC-197 - Recreation User Fee Policy, to the next regular meeting of Council respecting an overall 5% increase in user fees.



2. Receive the report Policy No. 197-RC-197 - Recreation User Fee Policy as information.

Recommended Action:

That Corporate Priorities Committee of Council direct administration to bring Policy No. 197-RC-197, being the Recreation User Fee Policy, to the next regular meeting of Council being May 26, 2020 for an approval of an overall 5% increase in recreational user fees.

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

Yes

Submitted by:

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