



CITY OF ST. ALBERT ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUNDER

TITLE: PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

On October 17, 2018 Councillor Joly provided notice in accordance with Section 23 of Procedure Bylaw 3/2018 that she intended to bring forward the proposed motion below.

In order for Council to debate the motion, the motion must be formally moved.

PROPOSED MOTION(S):

That Administration bring forward for consideration at the GPFC meeting on January 14, 2019, a Bylaw to create a new Council Committee to be called the Public Art Committee, together with any required consequential amendments to or repeal of Council Policy C-CS-04 the Public Art Policy, in order to accomplish the following:

Create a Public Art Committee appointed by resolution of Council, consisting of five to nine members who reside in St. Albert including one Council member and at least four Committee members having experience or expertise in one of the following: artist, art educator or administrator, art historian, architect or landscape architect, graphic designer;

Make clear that Administration is not to be a member of the Committee, but rather serve as a resource to and in an advisory capacity to the Committee;

Establish a definition of “Public Art” which includes: integration of art into the urban fabric; works, exhibits or performances produced through involvement of the community; location-specific works of art; collaboration between artists and other professionals whose concern is the quality of life in our urban environment such as planners, architects and engineers; and the concept that public art should “challenge or delight” those who experience it

A Committee mandate that includes:

making recommendations to Administration on the content of a municipal Public Art Program including: objectives for the stewardship of Public Art, artwork display and access in the Public Art collection, municipally owned properties that would benefit from inclusion of Public Art, strategies for Public Art as an integral component of the Culture Master Plan, site considerations; templates for Requests for Proposals for Public Art; selection processes; procedures for private developer contribution to and

participation in the Public Art Program; and recommendations for how the budget established by Council for Public Art should be spent;

providing expert advice and guidance to Administration, Council, land developers, community groups and other stakeholders, with respect to all aspect of Public Art and the Public Art Program; and

establishing a conservation plan and deaccession protocols for the maintenance of the St. Albert Public Art collection.

ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITY

N/A

ALIGNMENT TO ADMINISTRATIVE PRIORITY

N/A

ALIGNMENT TO SERVICE DELIVERY

Service Name: Public Art Collection

Service Definition: Maintenance, addition and removal to the City's public art inventory.

Service Component: Art in Public Places

Service Level: Public Art Reserve – 1% of eligible capital projects funds are pooled annually for acquisition and creation of art in public places.

BACKGROUND:

Administration has reviewed the above Notice of Motion regarding the development of a bylaw to create a new Committee of Council and outlining potential amendments to the Public Art Policy.

The majority of the elements identified in the Notice of Motion, with the exception of the Committee governance structure, are consistent with the intent of the existing Policy. Administration is supportive of reviewing the policy to provide more clarity and to ensure that the terminology and practices as outlined are updated to ensure St. Albert is continuing to be in alignment with industry best practices.

In relation to the Governance structure of the Committee, based on some initial consultation with other municipalities there appears to be a number of differing approaches ranging from our current model of a Public Art Advisory Committee which is arms length from Council, to a Committee of Council, where Council appoints the members of the Advisory Committee and which includes a Council

representative. There are advantages as well as disadvantages with each governance model in relation to the level of Council involvement and accountability Council desires. It should be noted that Administration's role in both governance models would remain consistent with current practices. Administration would continue to be a resource and facilitator for the Committee, acting in an advisory capacity, and are non-voting members.

Administration has prepared a summary of each clause in the Notice of Motion and references to clause(s) in the existing Policy that contains similar wording or similar intent, along with comments for Council's consideration (Attachment 1).

Administration has also outlined some options for Council's consideration including some modifications to the existing Committee governance model (Alternative 1), as well as a modification to the Committee governance model identified in the Notice of Motion (Alternative 2).

Should Council wish to approve the Notice of Motion as presented, or one of the alternatives identified to change the governance structure of the Public Art Advisory Committee, additional time would be required for research, and preparation of the appropriate background information, and possible drafting of a Bylaw and or revisions to the Policy as per Council's direction.

If approved Administration requests the timeline be extended based on the following considerations:

- The anticipated time, typically 1 – 1 ½ months, required for the development and review process for the bylaw itself.
- The time required to research best practices and trends in other municipalities to ensure that the policy and bylaw are reflecting current language, terminology and industry best practices.
- Current limited staffing capacity.
- The current timeframe in relation to the 2019 budget process.
- The upcoming holiday schedule throughout the month of December, and the anticipated challenge in consulting other municipalities throughout that timeframe.

Administration therefore requests that the report with the draft bylaw and revised Council Policy C-CS-04 the Public Art Policy be brought back to a GPFC meeting before the end of Q2, 2019.

Alternatives for Council's Consideration:

Give the scope of the Notice of Motion Council might wish to consider alternatives, Administration has outlined three possible options for Council's consideration.

Alternative 1

To amend the composition of the Public Art Advisory Committee, maintaining the arms length model, to reflect the requirement for a minimum of 5 of the potential 9 members of the Committee to be residents of St. Albert. And clarifying that

Administration is a non-voting member, acting in a resource and advisory capacity to the Committee.

To revise the existing Policy to be in keeping with current practices and consistent with the intent of the remaining clauses identified in the Notice of Motion.

This alternative maintains the arms length of the Committee from Council. It also ensures representation of St. Albert residents, but also allows the flexibility to ensure that members with technical expertise such as curators, conservators, visual artists with large scale public art experience, architects etc. are represented on the Committee, should St. Albert residents with this expertise and background not be available.

Alternative 2

That Administration bring forward for consideration at the GPFC meeting on January 14, 2019, a Bylaw to create a new Council Committee to be called the Public Art Committee, together with any required consequential amendments to or repeal of Council Policy C-CS-04 the Public Art Policy, in order to accomplish the following:

Create a Public Art Committee appointed by resolution of Council, consisting of five to nine members, with a minimum of five who reside in St. Albert including one Council member and at least four Committee members having experience or expertise as one of the following: visual artist, art educator or administrator, art historian or curator, conservator, architect, landscape architect, or design professional, civic representation including Community and Protective Services, Public Works, Planning and Engineering, Legal Services.

Clarifying the role of Administration as a resource to and in an advisory capacity to the Committee.

To revise the existing Policy to be in keeping with current practices and consistent with the intent of the remaining clauses identified in the Notice of Motion.

This option changes the Committee formally to a Committee of Council, however also allows for the flexibility to ensure that members with technical expertise are represented on the Committee, should St. Albert residents with this expertise and background not be available. As per other Committees of Council, additional support for such a Committee would be required, and provided by Legislative Services to facilitate meetings and prepare agendas and minutes.

Report Date: November 26, 2018
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