



POSTPONED MOTIONS: ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUNDER

NUMBER: PM 19-045

REQUESTED BY:	Councillor Sheena Hughes
ORIGIN OF REQUEST:	Email
DATE OF REQUEST:	November 22, 2018

AUTHOR:	Diane Enger
DEPARTMENT:	Recreation & Parks Department
DATE RESPONSE DUE:	November 26, 2018

MOTION:

That the removable covered dome is added to the outdoor refrigerated ice rink project for \$300,000, funded through the capital reserve.

RESPONSE (one page max.):

Administration's Understanding of Intent Motion:

Administration's understanding of the motion is that a roof/sun shade cover, permanent or removable, be funded as an additional amenity if a refrigerated outdoor ice rink was constructed as per postponed motion PM 19-044.

Operational or Organizational Impacts if Motion is Approved:

A roof or sun shade cover over an outdoor ice surface would result in less snow removal from the surface, making more time available for use. The roof/shade would prevent direct sun light on the surface, resulting in less melting that would extend the ice season. During the off-ice season, the surface can still be used when raining, as well shade users on hot days.

It is unknown if a "removable" roof is feasible. More work would need to be carried out to determine if a removable roof is possible, and at what costs.

As per PM 19-044 Administration would recommend planning work including site assessment, preliminary design and public engagement be completed prior to funding the capital construction for the refrigerated ice rink. The removeable covered dome could be included in this planning work.

Financial Implications of Motions:

If this motion were approved, a further \$300,000 would be committed from the capital reserve. Administrations capital recommendation results in the carry forward of capital dollars to the 2020 fiscal year to address a RMR funding deficit and to allow a reasonable allocation for priority growth projects. Committing this additional amount in 2019 reduces the amount available in the future.

Stakeholder Consultations:

Public engagement could be carried out as part of the work identified in PM 19-044 the outdoor refrigerated ice rink project.

Background:

The City of St. Albert operates a total of 28 natural outdoor ice surfaces. There are 7 locations that have change buildings adjacent to the surface. Five locations are boarded ice arena style and are staffed: Alpine Park, Flagstone Park, Gatewood Park, Larose Park, and Willoughby Park; the other two locations Lacombe Lake Park and Kingswood Park are social ice surface. This new type of facility is outside the scope of the current service levels for the City of St. Albert.

The typical outdoor ice season varies, operating from early December to the end of February, dependent on weather conditions. Research found communities with refrigerated outdoor ice systems operate for an extended season, early November to late March, about 5-6 weeks longer than natural ice surfaces. Typical outdoor systems can operate within a temperature threshold of approximately 8 degrees Celsius or cooler, depending on the size of the system. Based on the stakeholder consultation (Project Charter REC-063) with ice user groups, it is believed the that an outdoor artificial ice facility would be utilized primarily as a spontaneous, non-programmed use.

A removable covered dome added to the outdoor refrigerated ice rink project could be included in the planning work required to determine preliminary design and costing as per PM 19-044.