



# COUNCIL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Meeting date: Sept 6, 2022

**1. What is the process and approach for rebudget and resubmission of capital projects? What are some current examples?**

Part of the City's annual budget cycle includes variance reporting at the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters. This reporting requires department managers to project where they anticipate current year projects to be at year-end. If a manager has not started a project and does not anticipate starting it during the current year, a budget amendment to remove the financing may come forward with the variance report. If this occurs and the project is needed in a subsequent year, the manager must resubmit it in the upcoming budget process, and it is ranked and considered for inclusion with other new projects. An example of a project that may be resubmitted is 740c00121 Public Art Collection. As reflected in last week's Capital Variance Report, this project was cancelled as no bids were received through the procurement process, therefore, the Committee recommendation is to reduce the City's overall budget accordingly. If this project is going to proceed in a future budget year, it will be resubmitted through the budget process.

On the other hand, if a project has started but is not complete by year-end (for a variety of reasons such as staff/contractor availability, chain supply delays, planned projected progression, competing priorities, etc.) it is eligible to be rebudgeted. When this happens, following the year-end project cost compilation, any remaining budget can be submitted for rebudgeting and, if authorized by Council, will be added to the council approved capital budget. An example of a project that will be rebudgeted into 2023 is 320c00420 Robert Service Campground Building. This project is now part of the 2022 capital budget and is well underway, but will not be complete by year-end. A contract is in place to complete the work in 2023 so the project will come forward for rebudget authorization in the spring.

**2. Has external funding been confirmed for the Range Road lift station?**

The amendment to the Community-Building-Fund Transfer agreement (previously known as "gas tax funding") to increase the funding by \$1.4 M for the Range Road lift station project is currently in progress.

**3. What has been the nature / process for community engagement on the Whistle Bend ice rink / recreation facility?**

There were several opportunities for engagement during the 2018 Future Areas planning work, and the Whistle Bend (WB) neighbourhood open houses. Conceptual work continued between Parks and the Community Association following the initial planning sessions. When the WB Community Association and its Playground Sub-committee was active, they met with Parks to further discuss the requisite amenities and theme of the park. Everyone agreed that at minimum, the vision of the park should contain a rink and large playground. No further consultation has been conducted, however large parks grow and evolve as the community around it does. Both Rotary and Shipyards Parks are prime examples, where the initial infrastructure has grown to include additional amenities over the years. Generally, growth or input into future amenities involves feedback from the community.