

Seniors' Centres Plan 2011-2021

facilities across the City of
Edmonton.

Recommendation:

That Community Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That the Seniors' Centres Plan 2011-2021, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the May 9, 2011, Community Services Department report 2011CSR006, be approved.

Report Summary

This report requests approval of the Seniors' Centres Plan 2011-2021 which provides an overview of proposed developments and activities.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the April 20, 2009, Community Services Committee meeting, the following motion was passed:

1. That Administration provide a report to Community Services Committee by the end of 2009, outlining information on Seniors Centres, including:
 - Needs assessment
 - Surplus school sites
 - Site selection options, including co-habitation
 - Potential funding sources, including potential building partners
 - Timelines for approvals and construction.
2. As part of the above report also include a plan for the Mill Woods Seniors Centre, and a capital development plan for senior's

Report

- On November 16, 2009, an information report was provided to Community Services Committee which outlined progress to date. The report indicated that the plan would be completed in the spring of 2010. In April 2010, it was determined that further analysis was required and subsequent consultation with the seniors' sector to complete final recommendations and better align the plan with other seniors initiatives.
- It should be noted that a strategy for addressing the Mill Woods Senior's Recreation Centre (adding second floor to Mill Woods Library) identified in the Short Term Plan outlined in Attachment 1, was on the April 27, 2011, City Council agenda and was approved.
- This report requests City Council's approval of the Seniors' Centres Plan 2011-2021, outlined in Attachment 1. The Seniors' Centres Plan provides future direction on capital requirements of existing seniors' centres, recommendations to address seniors' needs in areas of the city where seniors' centres do not currently exist and recommendations for operational improvements to seniors' centres.

Background

- Seniors play an important role in society and the City of Edmonton's Seniors Declaration solidifies the City's commitment to seniors.
- Edmonton's population is aging. By 2041 almost one in three people will be 55 years of age or older with the

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most dramatic growth in the over-80 age group.

- Seniors are “aging in place” in their homes and communities much longer. The need for services and assistance to support their independence and overall well-being is increasing.
- Seniors' centres provide a continuum of services and vital programs that enable seniors to be independent, healthy and connected to other seniors and to the community at large.
- Each area of the city responds to the needs of older adults in different ways.

Seniors' Centres

- The 15 existing seniors' centres in Edmonton are community hubs that provide resource information, services and critical support to older adults.
- Seniors' centres are defined in the Seniors' Centres Plan as public facilities that:
 - are operated by a non-profit organization
 - are targeted to people aged 55 years and older
 - offer a diverse range of programs, services, and activities
 - are built and designed to meet the needs of seniors
 - have regular hours of operation
 - are accessible to all seniors
- Seniors travel between 1.5 and 6 kilometres to access a seniors' centre. The average distance is 3 to 4 kilometres.

Seniors' Centres Core Services

- The existing seniors' centres in Edmonton determined that there are

six core services that seniors' centres should provide, including:

1. social services
 2. recreational programs
 3. nutrition services
 4. health and wellness
 5. community development
 6. volunteerism opportunities
- Existing seniors' centres identified gaps in services and opportunities for increased services by ranking their services against the identified core services.

Future Capital and Operating

- The Seniors' Centres Plan 2011-2021 calls for:
 - additional seniors programming to be added to existing community and City recreation facilities
 - extending existing seniors' centres current hours of operation
 - encouraging all seniors' centres to offer six core services
 - retrofitting and redeveloping existing seniors' centres
 - developing a larger district-wide seniors' centre facility in the Mill Woods area
 - exploring the need for seniors' services and seniors' centre development in Edmonton's southwest (south of Whitemud Drive), northeast (Clareview) and north (Castle Downs)
 - reviewing the Seniors' Centres Plan every three to five years
- Seniors' centre projects would be required to follow the City of Edmonton budget process (operating and capital).

- Seniors' centres have the opportunity to apply for a variety of City of Edmonton funding such as:
 - Family and Community Support Services Funding
 - Senior Centres Investment Program which includes operating, conservation and emerging seniors' centre grants
 - Community Facility Partner Capital Grant

Policy

C187A Enhancing Community Facility Services through Partnerships

Corporate Outcomes

Improve Edmonton's Livability

Public Consultation

- The Seniors' Centres Plan was developed in collaboration with the Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council.
- Extensive consultation and research was conducted with staff and board members from the existing seniors' centres.
- Community focus groups were held throughout 2009 and 2010.

Budget/Financial Implications

When implementation of the Seniors' Centres Plan's recommendations result in capital development or redevelopment, projects will be reviewed in greater detail through the City's standard project planning and development processes including the ten-year Capital Agenda and three-year Capital Budget.

Justification of Recommendation

Approval of the Seniors' Centres Plan 2011-2021 will allow Administration to continue to work with the Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council, seniors' centres and the community to implement the recommendations identified in the Plan.

Attachments

1. Seniors' Centres Plan 2011-2021

Others Approving this Report

L. Rosen, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer