

Response to Council's Questions

Sports and Entertainment Facility Update

Recommendation:

That the December 10, 2010, Finance and Treasury Department report 2010FTB013 be received for information.

Report Summary

This report's attachments include responses to formal written questions submitted by Council, and directed at Administration, The Katz Group of Companies, and Edmonton Northlands, with respect to the potential sports and entertainment facility and downtown arena district.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the July 21, 2010 City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

That Administration provide a report to Council containing Administration's, The Katz Group of Companies', and Edmonton Northlands, responses to the questions submitted.

Report

- Following presentations by Administration and the Katz Group of Companies on July 21, 2010, Council submitted formal written questions on the potential sports and entertainment facility and downtown arena district, covering topics such as: Rexall Place, community revitalization levy, location, and other financial and legal considerations.

- In their responses, Administration have included information from external consultants Mark Rosentraub and Dan Mason who have the expertise that Administration lacks with respect to the hockey business and similar developments in other jurisdictions.
- As noted in the attachments, some questions cannot be answered fully at this point in the process.

Focus Area

The development of a sports and entertainment facility within a downtown arena district has the potential to support a number of Council's 10 year goals, specifically: Improve Edmonton's Livability, Transform Edmonton's Urban Form, and Diversify Edmonton's Economy.

Public Consultation

While public consultation was not a major focus of Council's written questions, it was part of another motion at the July 21, 2010, Council meeting. Formal public consultation on the sports and entertainment facility and downtown arena district took place in November 2010. An update of this public consultation will be provided in a separate verbal report to Council.

Attachments

1. Responses to Council's Questions of Administration
2. Responses to Council's Questions of The Katz Group of Companies
3. Responses to Council's Questions of Edmonton Northlands

Others Reviewing this Report

- M. Koziol, General Manager, Capital Construction and Acting General

Manager, Asset Management and
Public Works Departments

- R. G. Klassen, General Manager,
Planning and Development
Department
- D. H. Edey, General Manager,
Corporate Services Department
- L. Cochrane, General Manager,
Community Services Department