

Open Spaces Asset Transfer Audit

Recommendation

That the April 16, 2021, Office of the City Auditor report OCA00512, be received for information.

Executive Summary

This report presents the results of the Open Spaces Asset Transfer audit.

Report

The City of Edmonton is responsible for maintaining all open space assets transferred into its inventory from City-built and developer projects. These open space assets include horticulture, park furnitures, park access, playgrounds and sports fields. The total acquisition value of these assets is approximately \$906 million.

The purpose of this audit was to review the effectiveness of the process to accept and transfer open space assets to Parks and Roads Services for ongoing maintenance. We determined that the process is effective, with three City departments all understanding their role to inspect, communicate and record the transfer of open space assets. The number of new projects identified with quality issues has decreased in the last three years. Additionally, the percentage of deficiency cost to acquisition value has also been decreasing.

We made three recommendations to improve the effectiveness of the process. The City needs to formalize the process to document inspections to ensure that the information recorded is complete and all deficiencies are compiled and addressed. Since Parks and Roads Services is ultimately responsible for the assets once it is transferred to the City, they should be aware of all projects with potential open space assets and be given the opportunity to attend all Construction Completion Certificate and Final Acceptance Certificate inspections. Finally, in order to ensure transferred assets are maintained, the process to enter the transferred assets into the Spatial Land Inventory Management system needs to be formalized. This will ensure that transferred open space assets have been entered in a complete and timely manner.

Policy

Bylaw 16097, Audit Committee Bylaw, Section 14(d) states that, "Committee will review all reports from the City Auditor dealing with completed audit projects."

Public Engagement

Public engagement was not required for this report.

Attachment

1. Open Spaces Asset Transfer Audit Report