



Adam A. Donaldson @adamadonaldson

Mar 7 · 122 tweets · [adamadonaldson/status/1633173507629522945](https://twitter.com/adamadonaldson/status/1633173507629522945)

Just talking to a couple of chaps at the bus stop about EV buses and I'm kind of amazed how the urban legend of EVs needing to charge for 24 hours to go 3/4 of a mile still persists.

First item: This month's staff recognitions.

5.1 Retirement of Fire Chief

Retirement of Fire Chief Dave Elloway

5.2 Diploma in Municipal Administration, with Honours

Liz McGee, Clerical Assistant

5.3 2022 Lean Green Belt Graduates

(*Council Memo Lean Green Belt (wave 1) Summary Report - 2023-97 added to the Revised Agenda)

Brendan Macmullin, Community Emergency Management Coordinator
 Dave Martin, Lead Hand, Materials Recovery Facility
 Heather Macpherson, Customer Service Coordinator
 Lee Merner, Program Manager, Parks Business Services
 Mathew Newman, Manager, Business Services
 Prasoon Adhikari, Supervisor, Environmental Engineering
 Stacey Hare, Program Manager, Customer Service and Customer Experience

***5.3.1 Lean Green Belt (wave 1) Summary Report - 2023-97**



5.4 Masters of Arts in Leadership from Royal Roads University

Shanna O'Dwyer, Manager, Financial Reporting and Accounting

FYI:

Lean Green Belt

- A professional who is well versed in the methodology and tools of Lean
- A person who leads medium scope improvement projects with a cross-functional team
- Is a peer coach to others doing small scope improvements
- Is part of a growing network of staff learning and using the Lean approach to support the improvement of our processes in order to deliver on our Strategic Plan Commitments
- Certification is just the beginning, the knowledge and skill from the LGB experience remains and can be used for future projects and in the way they approach their daily work

On to the main event. First item: 2022 Municipal and School Board Election Report.
Gibson/Guthrie move to received. (This is a consent report item.)

Motion carried.

Next: 2023 Property Tax Policy.



Total tax bill for 2023 is just under \$296 million. That's not the total City budget, that's just how much of the budget is covered from tax revenue.

Info about tax ratios:

Tax Ratios – What are they?

- Relative tax burden across the property classes.
- Mathematical relationship between the tax rate for the residential class and the tax rates for other property classes.
- Residential class is the basis for comparison for other classes, its' tax ratio is always 1.0.
 - If the tax ratio for a class has a value of 2.0, the tax rate for the class when measured against the residential rate is two times more.
- Tax ratio for farmlands and managed forests will be 25% of the residential tax rate or .25.

and Education 2022-2026

Guelph's Historical Tax Ratios			
Tax Year	Multi- Res	Commercial	Industrial
2008	2.740000	1.840000	2.630000
2012	2.165900	1.840000	2.630000
2016	1.997900	1.840000	2.204800
2020-2023	1.786308	1.840000	2.204800

2022 Tax Ratios - BMA Comparators			
Municipality	Multi- Res	Commercial	Industrial
Guelph	1.7863	1.8400	2.2048
Average	1.7246	1.6689	2.1175
Median	1.8629	1.7042	2.0691
Min.	1.0000	1.0820	1.1000
Max.	2.3594	2.6374	4.4267

Based on 117 Municipalities in 2022 BMA Study

Council Orientation and Education 2022-2026

Here's a video explainer:



<https://www.youtube.com/embed/nrWry5i3TBU>

James Krauter, Manager, Revenue and Taxation/Deputy Treasurer, reminds committee that the final numbers will come back at the end of March for council approval.

Cllr Allt asks Krauter if you don't want high taxes then you should hope that your house doesn't increase in value? Krauter says increased value \neq higher taxes 100 per cent of the time.

Cllr Gibson asks if there's any bearing on the assessment from market demand? Krauter says assessment are based on the latest CVA in 2016, that doesn't change until province passes a new one.

Cllr O'Rourke asks if there will be more equity in existing neighbourhoods when MPAC reassess? Krauter says there's no overall reassessment if people add square footage, it's still based on last assessment, which was in 2016.

Guthrie asks about shifting tax burden to big commercial ("big box") properties. Krauter says the option introduced by the Province a few years ago was hard to implement because of how to define a "small business." A bank branch and a corner store could both count using the def.

Krauter says there's always been an option for the "shopping centre" class tax, which is meant for shopping centres beyond a certain sq.footage. Guelph had that in the early 2000s. Also, there's been a big shift now from BBS to online shopping. Warehousing the next big area.

Motion to approve 2023 Property Tax Policy approved unanimously.

Next, Revenue Budgeting Policy, with presentation by Karen Newland, Manager of Client Services and Budget.

Essentially, this document is formalising what the City already does in terms of best practices:

Key principles

- Revenue increases offset related costs
- One-time revenue supports one-time expenses
- Ongoing revenue is used for ongoing operating expenses
- Aligning “who benefits” with “who pays”
- Subsidies or discounts should be linked to policy or strategy

Schedule A. Based on the idea that fees can reclaim the cost of the service, unless it can be proved that the value of the service is more universal than just the people using it.

Schedule A – User fees, rates, and charges

Funding Category	Who Benefits	Type of Service	Cost Recovery Ratio Guidance
General service / fully tax supported	Community	General	0% to 5% (primarily taxes)
Mixed service / partially tax supported	Primarily the community	General/Individual	5% to 50% (primarily taxes, some user fees)
Mixed service / partially tax supported	Primarily the individual	Individual/General	50% to 95% (primarily user fees, some taxes)
Private service / non-tax supported	Individual benefit only	Individual	95% to 100% (primarily user fees)

Paying for growth and growth-related operating expenses.

Schedule B – Property tax assessment growth

- Should be used to fund growth-related service costs
- Prescribes basis for allocating assessment growth revenue
- Outlines how to handle assessment growth revenue in comparison to budgeted revenue or budgeted growth expenses

Money that goes to specific program or service, not a new practice for the City here.

Schedule C – Grants

- Linked to specific program or service
- Assesses long-term implications
- Prescribes approval thresholds
- Outlines reallocation of displaced funds

This for new money, and the sponsorship section is going to need it's policy in the future:

Schedule D – Other forms of new revenue

Fundraising and donations

- Program specific reserve, collected for specific purpose
- Cost of fundraising covered through proceeds
- Minimum threshold received before funds can be spent
- Multi-year fundraising campaigns may require Council approval

Sponsorship and advertising

- 100 per cent revenue allocated to facility, program or event for which it was received
- Expenses aligned with duration of agreement
- Policy only addresses the financial side (revenue/expenses)
- Additional policy on sponsorship is needed

Allt/Busuttil put the motion on the floor. Cllr Busuttil asks if equity strategy already exists in policy for this. Newland says some areas do have a policy, but others don't. Clack-Bush notes that affordable bus pass is a good example, but every service has own demands.

O'Rourke asks if staff would consider making a change to a line in policy to say "should" align with the Strategic Plan. Might broaden options to deal with things not planned for like COVID. Treasurer Baker says staff will take that away.

Guthrie asks if there's any identification of dividend revenue in the policy. Baker says there's policy in place that dividends go into infrastructure renewal, but that's not in *this* policy. Bake will look at including that info.

Motion approved unanimously.

We're now switch the chair to Public Services. Cllr Downer is taking over.

First, on the consent agenda, is Transit Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference. This was previously approved at TAC in January.

Busuttil asks about TAC liaising with other community groups. Clack-Bush says that's a very typical statement since transit affects a number of different groups. Depends on the consultation.

Billings/Allt move the recommendation. Passes unanimously.

Next, the One Canopy Tree Planting Strategy. Gene Matthews, GM of Parks, and Timea Filer, Urban Forest Field Technologist. Matthews begins noting that the Private Tree Bylaw update is currently ongoing, but this deals with public land.

We're moving management of the urban forest from reaction to proactive!

Our vision

Protect the urban forest and the benefits it provide to the community

Enhance all aspects of management

Engage all stakeholders

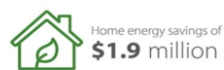
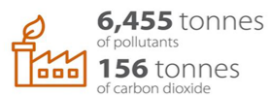
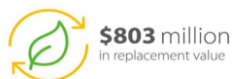
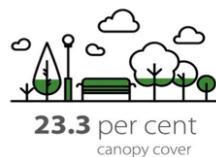
Transition from reactive to proactive management to reduce risk and cost while increasing benefits and support

Why more trees?

- Current canopy is vulnerable to pests, disease, climate change et al
- Increase/diversified cover is good for health, ecosystem, and economy
- Guelph's tree canopy is not evenly or equitably distributed
- City's efforts alone will not reach the target

Trees are good.

Guelph's urban forest



City of Guelph, One Canopy Tree Planting Strategy

We cannot get to the goal of 40% by 2031, so we look to get there by 2070 instead. Guelph does have the land to accomplish this.



We're going to need to plant a lot of freakin' trees to get to our goal!



To get there, the City will have to:

- Develop a sustainable funding model
- Develop a strategic planting plan
- Leverage existing and develop new tree planting programs
- Leverage or develop new policies or bylaws

That means:

- Increase number of community participants in City tree planting events
- Increase number of community participants independent of the City (on private or other public lands)
- Increase collaboration and partnerships

Trees don't come cheap! (Though this is only a high level estimate.)

Financial implications

- With the estimated annual cost requirement of \$3.6 million verses a current annual budget of \$687 thousand, an additional \$2.9 million annually will be required to meet the 40 per cent tree canopy cover.
- This is a high-level estimate that will be refined as it is incorporated into the overall corporate plan and multi-year budget process.
- The rate of return for trees outweighs the costs of planting and maintenance

Next!

Next steps

- Up to 80,000 of varying sizes trees need to be planted every year across the city for the next 46 years
- Sustained commitment from the City and the community to work collaboratively
- Aside from protecting and managing the existing canopy cover, the Strategy requires planting more trees on City, private and other public lands, planting better, and allowing the time for trees to reach their potential
- Implementing planting strategy will provide benefits for future generations
- Inaction would be detrimental

There are 3 delegates on this matter, and we start with Susan Rietschin for Guelph Urban Forest Friends. She says GUFF (real acronym) enthusiastically supports these recommendations, but worried that there's no hustle, especially given the threat to trees.

Rietschin adds that no infrastructure projects should be approved without an allowance for the planting of new trees and the protection of old trees. Also notes that tree planting efforts are overly reliant on volunteers. Need more tree planting expertise!

Next, Lisa Mactaggart from Trees for Guelph who says it's "not just about getting plants into the ground." She does tout TfG's 2022 success though:



Caron asks Mactaggart about aligning tree planting with urban agriculture. Mactaggart says it's about finding a balance and giving people options to find the right tree for the right space and thus having both activities.

Last delegate is Kya Mason-Wetherill, she's a recent grad from GCVI who has an idea called "Roots to Rewards", which came in second place at a U of G suitability project contest:

Pilot Project Spring 2023		
Residential	Industrial	Institutional
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with two neighbour groups to promote the project, educate residents, and distribute trees• Goal to have 10 or more home owners participate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goal to have two or more businesses participate• Provide field technician advisory support• Student volunteers help plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goal to have one UGDSB and one WCDSB school participate• Field technician advisory support• Volunteers help students plant

Allt asks Mason-Wetherill if there are numbers for you volunteers and how they might follow-up. She says a lot of the people she worked with in Beyond Borders were interested, and she's talking with one teacher who wants to get his grade 10 students involved.

Mason-Wetherill also says getting neighbourhood groups involves would be a great way to recruit.

Allt asks if she has any business signed up yet. Mason-Wetherill says she has no formal sign-ups but lots of leads.

O'Rourke asks Mason-Wetherill to let council know how they can help when the time comes. She says that she imagines they'll get going in April.

Cllr Chew says it's nice to see a young person bring some ideas to council, and he recommends reaching out to some City staff to get going on this project. Mason-Wetherill says that she thinks there's an opportunity here for people her age to step up and make a difference.

Caron/Goller put the recommendations on the floor:

Recommendation:

1. That the One Canopy Tree Planting Strategy (TPS) dated January 2023, included as Attachment-1 to this report, and the proposed actions and recommendations noted within the plan be approved.
2. That the funding requirements for the One Canopy Tree Planting Strategy be considered in future operating and capital budgets in order to implement the recommendations of the strategy.

Busuttill thanks staff for recognising the equity angle, and asks if there's a map that might let council visualise where the vulnerable areas are. Filer says there are maps in the Urban Forest study (and I found it! They're in Appendix E: <https://guelph.ca/wp-content/uploads/Urban-Forest-Study-Report.pdf>)

Allt asks about the "ballpark" estimate of the impact on stormwater management with the increased tree canopy. Filer says that data's in the study too.

O'Rourke asks if all this research was done before Bill 23. It was.

O'Rourke asks about Bill 23 impacts. Matthews says that needs to be taken away because they'll need to adapt and this probably won't be the last time they'll need to adapt.

O'Rourke says that she's concerned about the costs because the annual cost is greater than the per year costs for the Trails Master Plan. Filer says its just the expense of the trees and two years of follow-up costs.

Matthew notes that given space constraints would mean that the City couldn't spend all that money if it was approved for 2023. They don't anticipate coming forward with the full cost in the MYB b/c there are additional considerations to confirm first.

O'Rourke asks if planting this many trees is reasonable any given year. Matthews notes that we planted over 16k trees last year, so its doable. There's going to be a lot of organization to get there, but it's reasonable.

Caron asks what the loss of to the canopy might be if the City got rid of evasive species of trees. Staff says this is not about getting rid of those trees, but converting. Getting rid of Buckthorn, for example, will also let other species thrive.

Filer also notes that the 18% figure Caron mentioned was the leaf area and not the canopy coverage area.

In response to another Caron question, Matthews notes that space is the bigger problem with the price tag, and the bicentennial celebration in 4 years might be a bit too soon to really make this strategy a piece of that.

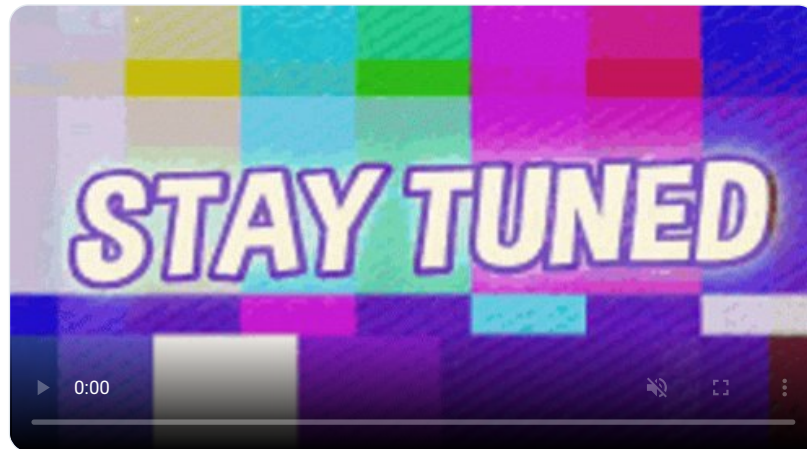
Caron notes that the City began with the chopping down of a tree to it might be fitting to mark 200 years with the planting of some trees.

Cllr Goller asks if the City should build its own nursery to mitigate costs? Matthews says that is something to look at over the long-term, there are some good models to build off of like the one at the GRCA. Goller says a look at short-med-long term econ benefits would help.

Cllr Caton asks about the planting of fruit trees. Staff says that there's an org in Guelph that does that, and there's a new program called Take Root that will be announced in the coming weeks that will focus on native trees, which is a starting point.

Recommendations approved unanimously.

Chair Downer calls a 30 minute break. Three items left on the agenda so...



In the meantime, enjoy these photos of this month's staff recognitions:



Cllr Downer has called the meeting to order again. Next item up is Business Licensing – Short-Term Rental Accommodations. Scott Green, Manager of Corporate and Community Safety will present.

Previously at city council:

Council Direction

In 2016, Council directed staff to investigate the growth of Short-Term Rentals (STR)

On February 28, 2022, Guelph City Council reviewed a staff report to add a licensing category for short-term rentals under the City's Business License By-law (2009)-18855

Council approved the approach to license short-term rentals and directed staff to:

- engage key stakeholders and the public to develop a short-term rental category and regulations under the City's Business License By-law
- investigate options for licensing of both principal and non-principal residences for consideration; and
- report findings back to Council.

After that, staff put a team together made up of project team members and 13 community stakeholders who are a diverse group of participants with a variety of backgrounds and interests as they relate to the Guelph community, tourism and short-term rental industries.

That group considered:

- Community concerns
- Business concerns
- The benefits of short-term rentals in our community
- Business licensing options and best practices in other communities
- Impacts of licensing or regulation
- Impacts if status quo was to continue
- Taxes

Then they came up with these objectives:

Objectives

1. Health and Safety

Ensure rented residential space meets fire, building and bylaw regulations

2. Tax and Regulatory Equity

Treat accommodation providers equitably from a tax and regulatory perspective

3. Supplemental Income

Allow residents to earn income from renting their home occasionally

4. Tourism

Support growth in tourism and support for the City and University events

5. Transparency and Ease

A regulatory, licensing and enforcement system that is easy to understand, inspires high levels of voluntary compliance and has effective means of preventing lawful behaviour

From there, they decided that STRs must have:

- Safe accommodation - Guelph Fire, and building inspections
- No violations of City zoning, property standards maintenance or nuisance by-laws
- Mandated insurance requirements

So the recommended rules are:

Recommendations

(numbered simply for ease of reference, not priority)

1. Recommend a review of long-term rentals, as they are linked to the STR market
2. Must have someone available 24/7, in-person, within 30 minutes
3. By-law to be reviewed after one year
4. Starting in that initial year, collect data that would help assess the usefulness and appropriateness of the bylaw
5. "Host" can be owner or long-term renter, with written permission of owner
6. Support for limited number of guests, adequate parking – these will be handled through nuisance and parking by-laws, otherwise hard to enforce
7. Educate the public re: rationale – e.g. fees are not a "money grab" for the municipality

Recommendation: Principal property plus one

- Same service as a B&B or hotel, so should be regulated roughly the same way, no matter where it is offered
- Principal residence plus investment STR, limited to one per owner



Recommendation to committee:

Recommendation:

1. That staff be directed to create a new schedule under the City's Business Licensing By-law (2009)-18855 to regulate the licensing of short-term rental accommodations that incorporates the recommendations contained within this report.

There's one delegate on this matter, Hilary McCann, Guelph Chamber of Commerce-Destination Marketing Organization. She would like to see the MAT included for short-term rentals.

Goller/Richardson move the recommendation.

Goller asks about the insurance requirements. Green says that after consultation with legal, the City doesn't have to be a co-signer on the insurance, but it still needs to be \$2 million min. and the insurer needs to know it's a long-term rental.

Goller asks about sharing contact info of the owner with the neighbours. Green says there's might be some privacy concerns with that.

Gibson asks about the legality of limiting property ownership, will the City only issue a permit for one short-term rental? Green says that's the proposal, you can have one on your property and one additional one.

Gibson: So anything more than that is an illegal short-term rental?

Green: Yes, and there were people in that position on the committee, bouncing some properties between long- and short-term rentals.

Gibson: So do long-term renters need business permit?

Green: That wasn't the scope of this project, but LTRs are being looked at in different review.

Gibson: Is there anything that stops people owning more than one hotel?

Doug Godfrey: Yes, the concern here though is that people could turn long-term rentals into short-term.

Gibson says that he's considering expanding the limit to more than one before the end of the month. But he will take other questions offline.

Caton asks if this will prevent out-of-town corps from buying up homes for STR? Green said yes, you have to live here to own an AirBnB (or whatever).

O'Rourke says that she thinks staff struck the right balance here and did good engagement work.

Goller says he's heard from residents that don't want to see any STRs, but understands there needs to be a balance, and this is a good balance.

Guthrie asks if we limit cannabis stores? Godfrey says that the City doesn't have the authority to license cannabis stores. Guthrie says he's going to leave that as a comment (?).

Allt says laws and bylaws are rarely perfect out of the gate and staff has left room to make some changes. He says this is a goof first start because council didn't want to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

Gibson asks if there are other businesses in the City where we might limit that business type. Can you own more than one restaurant or convenience store? What if someone moves away, will they have to sell their STR?

Godfrey says that during the renewal process that person would no longer be eligible. Downer notes that they could keep the property and rent it long-term. Godfrey says that's correct.

Caton says she's constant see people struggle to find somewhere to live and turning more housing into STR is a concern. Touts the balance.

Caron says the distinction here is that these are residentially zoned properties and we have a housing crisis not a hotel vacancy crisis. Commodification of housing has an impact on neighbours, so this is about equity and fairness.

Motion passes 10-1 with Gibson against.

Announcements: Clack-Bush notes that this is probably going to be Scott Green's CoW meeting since he's retiring in May.

Public Services is done. Now it's time for Audit.

Chair Allt takes over and introduces Robert Jelacic, General Manager of Internal Audit who will talk about the Internal Audit work plan.

What's the deal with...

Role of the Audit Committee

- Having input and approving the annual internal audit workplan.
- Approving the internal audit charter.
- Reviewing reports prepared by external and internal auditors.
- Review of the management responses and actions plans resulting from internal audits.

Every year, the audit team comes up with a work plan based on three factors: Prioritization of the audit plan using a risk-based methodology, requests from Council or staff, or any unfinished audits from last year. Here are the audit types:

Audit Types

1. **Operational Audits** (aka performance audits, value for money audits, management audits). Operational audits objectively and systematically examine the City's programs, services and functions.
2. **Financial Audits** include the review of financial processes. Cash control, accounts payable, payroll, inventory controls, and investment compliance are all examples of areas that may be reviewed in a financial audit.
3. **Compliance Audits** are smaller in scope than operational audits and are designed to review and evaluate compliance with established policies and procedures as well as any and all relevant statutory and/or legal requirements.

Audit Types

4. **Information Systems Audits** provide assurance that the City's information technology infrastructure and computer applications contain adequate controls and security to safeguard assets and mitigate risk.
5. **Fraud Investigations** are audits that usually involve an examination of specific components of an operation or program normally identified from information received from various sources.
6. **Follow-up Audits** the primary purpose of a follow-up audit is to provide assurance that the recommendations made in previous audit reports have been addressed and implemented.

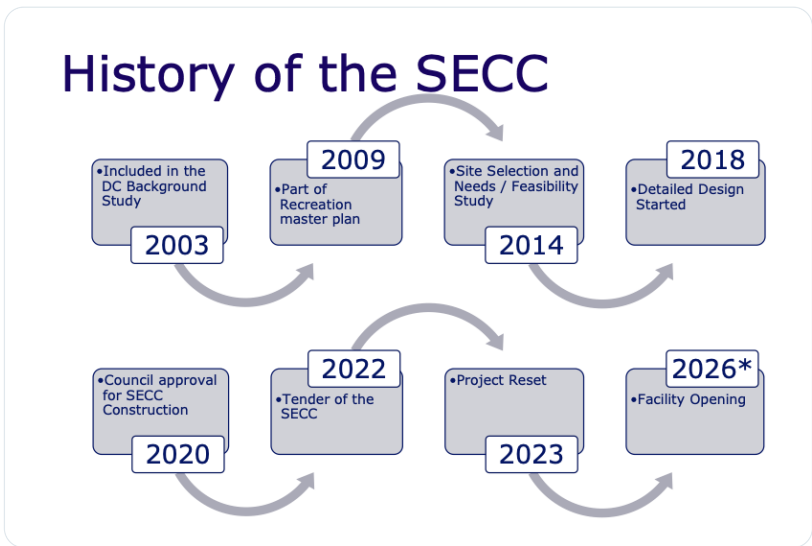
Motion to receive the report passes unanimously.

Chair O'Rourke takes over for the one item on the IDE agenda: Implementation Strategy Report: South End Community Centre.

Antti Vilkkö, GM of Facilities and Energy Management, kicks things off noting that Guelph is still short on programming space for recreation and sports in the City. Inflation is not a unique pressure for this project, but there it is.

Vilkkö says that the move to a construction manager model to supervise this project will allow the City to be more flexible as they look to put shovels in the ground later this year.

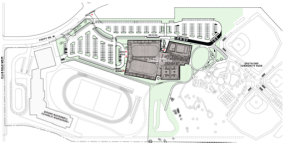
Rec Manager Danna Evans starts with a history lesson:



What the project's going to look like from what the building will offer to the full south end campus.

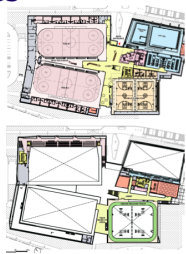
South End Campus

- Part of an overall campus that includes Bishop Macdonnell Catholic High School
- Amenities include
 - Dragonfly Playground and Splashpad
 - Larry Pearson Ball Diamonds
 - Tennis Courts
 - Basketball Courts
 - Trails
 - Sports Field
 - Picnic Shelter

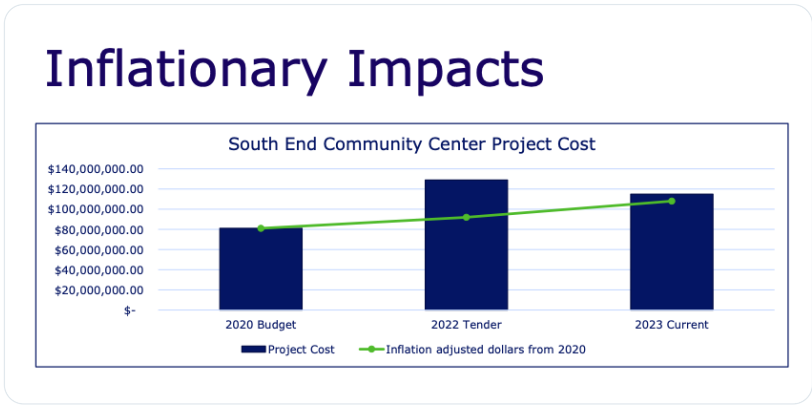


Facility Amenities

- Twin ice pads
- Lap and teaching pool
- Double gymnasium
- Walking track
- Multi-purpose rooms
- Meets the City's energy goals of Net Zero Carbon



Ian Scott, Manager of Facility Design and Construction, takes over. He explains how inflationary pressures had added about \$50 million to price tag, but as luck would have it, the project may only end up costing about \$35 million more to bring the budget up to \$115.5 million.



Scott says this is the new normal between inflationary pressures, labour and supply shortages, and market shift to sustainable design. It does seem like some factors are stabilising, but the market is still volatile.

How did they shave off about \$24 million from the budget? Simpler footprint, simplified heating and ventilation system, the removal of the rear courtyard, a simplified overall design incl. the removal of some hallways space, and a pause on public art.

The team will need about three months to incorporate changes before the project can go out to tender to trades later this year before breaking ground in the fall. The centre is currently scheduled to open in 2026.

Recommendations:

Recommendations

1. That the construction of the South End Community Centre be approved for a project cost of \$115.5 million, with the project scope as approved under the October 7, 2020 report [IDE 2020-141 South End Community Centre Project Update](#).
2. That additional budget of \$35.5 million be approved for project RF0092 South End Community Centre Construction, funded \$33,725,000 from Parks and Recreation Development Charge Reserve Fund (#319) and \$1,775,000 from tax supported debt funded from the Infrastructure Renewal Reserve Fund (#150).

Guthrie/Chew move the recommendations. O'Rourke calls the opportunity to move the motions at the end of the month. 🙄

Downer asks if tree canopy on the property is being compromised. Vilkkko says no.

Downer asks if the loan Baker took out previously for this project or also Baker Redevelopment. Baker says \$37.5 mn was for the SECC and the rest for Baker development. (Interest on that loan is less than 2%, would have been over 4% now.)

Caron asks for confirmation that this plan does not presume the closure of Centennial Rink. Evans says that's right. They won't be looking again at Centennial until after the SECC is in business.

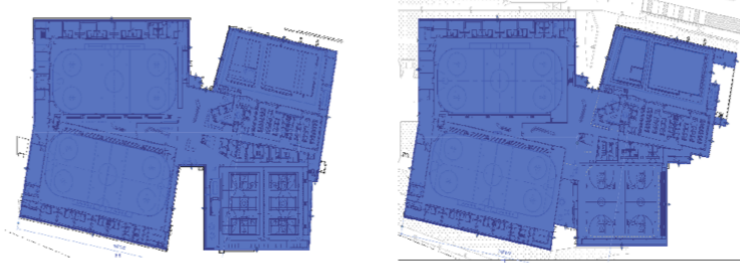
Caron asks if there's full rooftop solar. Scott confirms.

Caron asks about provision for transit service. Vilkkko says location of parking on site is more stormwater controls, and transit was consulted for how that service can be accommodated.

Not the cost saving design from the the original on the left and the new version on the right.
The services that will be offered are remaining the same though.

Cost Reduction Strategies

Reviewed and reduced footprint without affecting programming



Goller asks if a budget for a project has to come back for re-approval if the cause is inflation. DCAO Holmes says they always come back to council if it's a change in scope or budget. Baker adds that they are looking at better aligning budget so its closer to start date.

Guthrie asks about DC funding given provincial changes. Baker says Guelph has been collected DCs for this for the last 20 years, so it's a long-term funding strategy. Still waiting on regulations, but City has taken steps incl. a grant application to mitigate uncertainty.

Guthrie asks about revenue generation possibilities. Clack-Bush says back in 2014, the needs assessment called for community space, and that's what they've been pursuing, not a competitive space. It will take pressure off Sleeman Centre for minor sports.

O'Rourke asks about input of programming into building design. Evans says they've listened to the community, even with the constraints of the site. One rink will have 600 seats, for example.

Chew thanks staff and wants to take opportunity to celebrate because this is 20 years in the making. It's a calculated risk, and its something that the community's been calling on for a while.

Guthrie says he can't wait to have a groundbreaking for this as soon as possible.

Allt says he's happy to support this because it's a city project.

Motions pass unanimously.

This meeting is over!



[@threadreaderapp](#), unroll please.

...