## City Square Plaza Welcome Services Pavilion Presentation to City Council Regina Downtown Business Improvement District Submission

March 25, 2019

Good Afternoon Mayor Fougere and City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you in support of City Square Plaza Welcome Services Pavilion. My name is Judith Veresuk, Executive Director with the Regina Downtown Business Improvement District. On behalf of the RDBID Board of Directors, I am here to support the recommendation before you today.

When City Square Plaza was designed, it included locations for two pavilions located at the east and west sides of the plaza. The east pavilion was intended to be a food service pavilion and the west was to be a visitor services pavilion. The underground infrastructure, including water lines, sewer, electrical and grade beams, were put into place during the plaza construction, however, due to budget constraints, the pavilions were never built.

In 2012, the Downtown Deferred Revenue Account was established. The funds in this account are made up of development charges from the construction of Mosaic Tower and Agriculture Place, along with surface parking over dedication fees in Office Area Zones outside the City Centre. These funds are to be used specifically for "downtown improvement projects and programming of downtown events".

In 2017, City Council agreed to contribute \$150,000 from the DDRA towards the construction of the Welcome Services Pavilion. Since then, RDBID has worked closely with City administration to develop design plans for the building and secure additional, private funding to match the City's contribution. \$150,000 was secured from a private donor in Q4 2018. Immediately, RDBID worked to finalize the permit and issue the construction tender. We received 5 bids, and accepted the lowest bid, which was \$350,500. Construction has since started on the pavilion. The funding requested today would be allocated through the Downtown Deferred Revenue Account, similar to the initial \$150,000 in funding approved in 2017.

Regina Downtown is a strong supporter of City Square. Since 2011, RDBID has offered a number of programs that support positive activation of the park, plaza and FW Hill Mall. The Welcome Services Pavilion will allow us to continue to grow and enhance these programs and services. With the pavilion's construction, we will have a permanent, professional location to provide support to visitors and residents who come to downtown Regina.

Once constructed, RDBID intends to fully staff the pavilion from Victoria Day through Labour Day, six days a week. We also have an agreement with Tourism Regina to help provide additional staffing throughout the summer. Additionally, we would be open on key dates during the fall and winter for festivals, farmers markets and the like.

The service desk is located to the east side of the building and includes a walk up window for visitors to speak to our staff. There is an electrical room to house the operational system for the lighting in City Square Plaza. There is a private washroom for staff use. The storage area will be used for amenities and

soft goods that support the operations of the pavilion and plaza. This would include a small lending library, bike repair station, ping pong tables, bistro tables and brochures.

The pavilion will be used to provide comprehensive visitor services including, but not limited to:

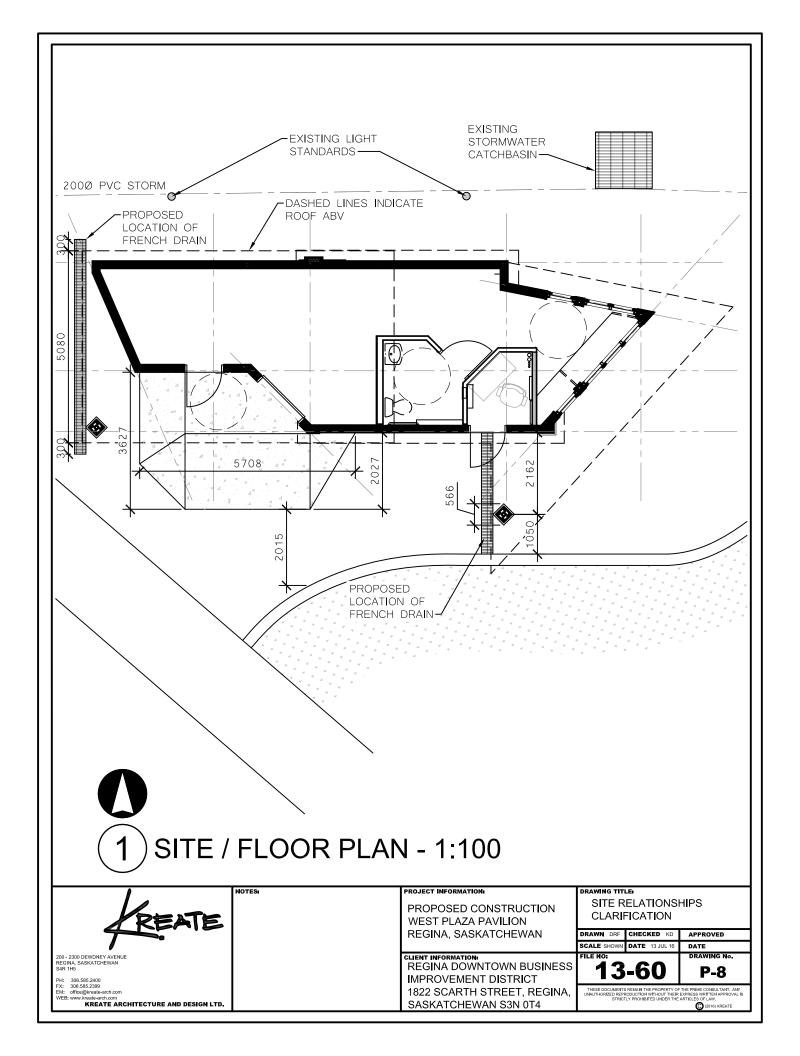
- A seating area/patio
- Wi fi hot spot
- Meeting point for guided tours
- Bike repair station
- Water spigot for water bottle refills

Additional amenities will be added as demand dictates.

The plans before you today are a result of the collaboration between RDBID and the Community Services staff, in particular Janine Daradich. Together, we have identified a suitable design that meets RDBID operational needs and allows us to grow our visitor services program.

As mentioned earlier, lowest construction bid for this project was \$350,500. We request an additional allocation from the deferred downtown revenue fund for \$25,000. RDBID has secured the remaining balance through our capital reserve and private donations. With your approval, we will have the Welcome Services constructed and operational for the 2019 summer season.

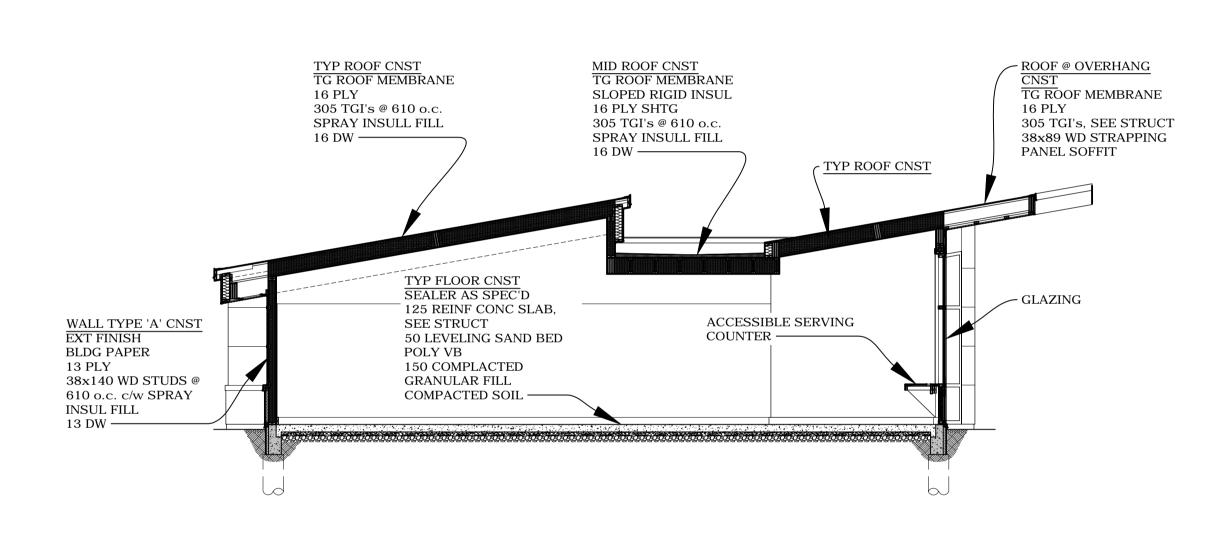
We look forward to continuing our partnership with the City of Regina in ensuring City Square, Victoria Park and the FW Hill Mall are vibrant, exciting and safe places for the community to gather. The construction of the Welcome Services Pavilion is essential to meeting these goals. Thank you for your consideration.

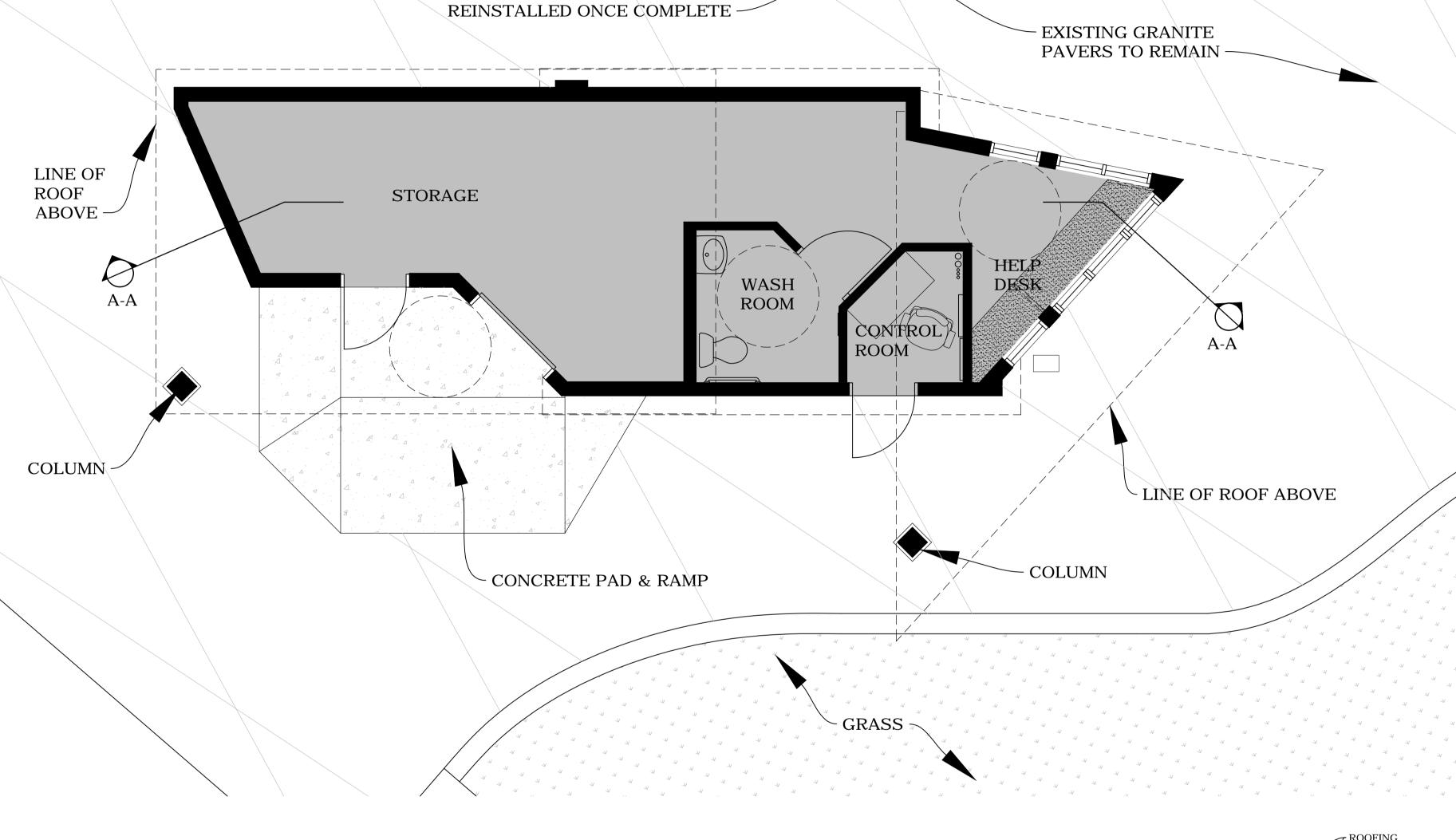




## Regina Downtown

Business Improvement
District

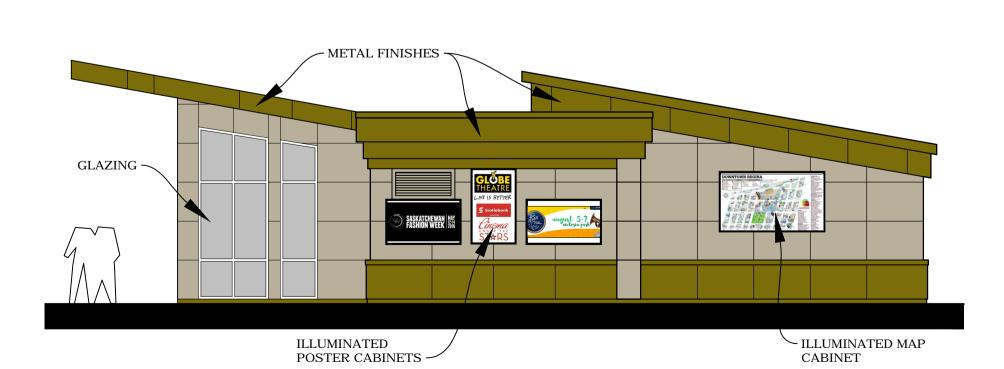


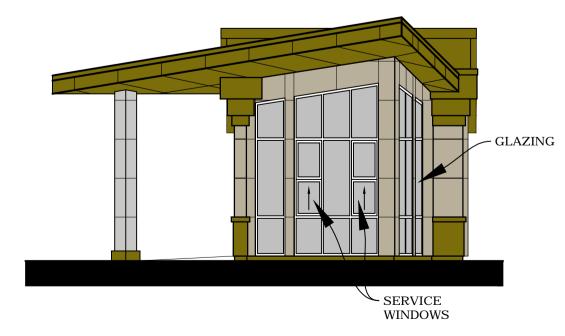


EXISTING LIGHT SABERS TO BE

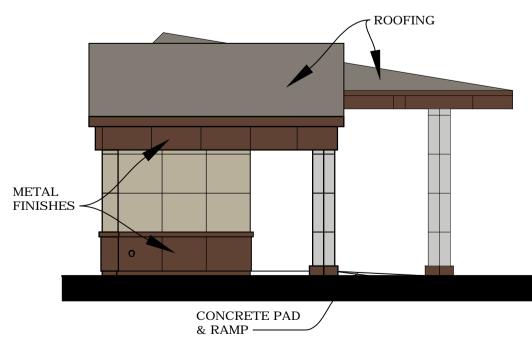
REMOVED FOR DURATION OF

CONSTRUCTION &









REATE ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN LTD.

200 - 2300 Dewdney Avenue Regina, SK S4R 1H5

Phone: 306.585.2400 Facsimile: 306.585.2399

office@kreate-arch.com www.kreate-arch.com

