

2022 Budget Submission - Service Partners

Date	November 17, 2021
То	Executive Committee
From	Financial Strategy & Sustainability
Service Area	Financial Services
Item No.	EX21-76

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Committee recommends that City Council refer and consider the 2022 budgets and related requests as submitted by the Regina Exhibition Association Limited (REAL) – Appendix A, Economic Development Regina (EDR) – Appendix B, and the Provincial Capital Commission (PCC) - Appendix C at its 2022 budget meeting in December 2021.

ISSUE

It has been the practice for REAL, EDR and the PCC to provide the Executive Committee with a presentation outlining their plan of activities and budget request for the coming year. The purpose is to inform the Committee of the community investment (grant) that is being requested from the City by these organizations for future budget deliberations by City Council.

The deliberation and approval of the requests is undertaken as part of Council's consideration and approval of the overall General Fund Operating Budget. As a result, once discussed at the Executive Committee, the budget submissions are referred to the 2022 budget process for future budget deliberation by City Council.

IMPACTS

Financial Implications

The 2022 budget submission for REAL, EDR and PCC will be considered and approved by City Council through future budget deliberations.

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REAL is requesting total funding of \$1,100,000 for 2022. This includes \$400,000 as an annual operating grant, which is the same as their 2021 approved operating grant funding and a \$700,000 conditional grant related to assisting REAL in making principal and interest payments on REAL debt previously approved by Council.

EDR is requesting total funding of \$2,185,205 in 2022 representing a net increase of \$337,000 over 2021. This increase includes \$37,000 in ongoing funding to cover cost of living and inflationary pressures and a one-time funding request of \$300,000 to support the long-term growth and recovery of events, conventions and tourism sectors.

The PCC is requesting \$2,719,000, which is the same as their 2021 request which was included and approved in the 2021 budget. This includes an operating funding request of \$2,119,000 and a capital request of \$600,000 in 2022.

There are no accessibility, environmental, policy/strategic, risk/legal or other implications or considerations.

OTHER OPTIONS

None with respect to this report.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Regina Exhibition Association Limited, the Economic Development Regina and the Provincial Capital Submission will be advised of the decision of City Council after Council considers and approves a 2022 budget for the City in December 2021.

DISCUSSION

Regina Exhibition Association Limited (REAL) - Appendix A

The Regina Exhibition Association Limited (REAL) is a non-profit corporation that is responsible for the stewardship, development, promotion and overall management of Evraz Place for the City of Regina. REAL began operating as a not-for-profit municipal corporation in 2014 with oversight from a Board of Directors appointed by Council. The City of Regina owns the lands and assets of Evraz Place that REAL operates on behalf of the City. REAL is a large, multi-purpose event complex with over 1.2 million square feet of fully connected indoor space and over thirty (30) acres of outdoor usable space located in the heart of Regina – in close proximity to the Regina International Airport and downtown.

REAL is requesting \$400,000 in funding in 2022, which is the same as the 2021 approved funding. The funding is due to financial impacts the organization expects to experience due to the COVID-19

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pandemic. REAL has re-committed to reducing this grant amount (\$400,000) in half next year in an effort to become financially sustainable.

This funding request is in addition to the \$700,000 conditional grant related to assisting REAL in making principal and interest payments on REAL debt approved by Council on December 16, 2020 (CR20-96) and August 11, 2021 (CR21-114). This grant will be reviewed annually to determine if REAL has sufficient cashflows to support their debt obligations.

Economic Development Regina (EDR) - Appendix B

EDR's mandate is to create and implement an economic development strategy to grow and sustain prosperity in the Regina region; encourage the retention, development, attraction and growth of business and tourism products and services for those who live, work, visit and invest in the Regina region; and market and promote the Regina region for business and tourism. EDR is a not-for-profit municipal corporation with oversight from a Board of Directors that is appointed by City Council.

EDR is requesting total funding of \$2,185,205 in 2022 representing a net increase of \$337,000 over 2021. This increase includes core funding of \$1,885,205 in 2022, which is an increase of approximately \$37,000 or two per cent over 2021. This increase is reflective of cost of living and inflationary pressures to maintain core services and support day-to-day business.

In addition, on a one-time basis, EDR is requesting an additional \$300,000 from the City to support the long-term growth and recovery of events, conventions and the tourism sector. Traditional sources of revenue for these priorities continue to be impacted due to a longer than expected impact of COVID-19. Together with its partners, EDR is working to attract and maximize high-impact events for future years.

Provincial Capital Commission (PCC) - Appendix C

Under *The Provincial Capital Commission Act*, the Government of Saskatchewan established a Board of Directors representing Wascana Centre's three participating parties.

The Board contains three representatives from the Government of Saskatchewan and one each from the City of Regina and University of Regina. The PCC provides oversight and stewardship of 2,300 acres of land within the City of Regina, including land owned by each participating party and occupied by diverse tenants.

Pursuant to legislation, the majority of PCC's revenue is in the form of grant contributions from the PCC's participating parties: Government of Saskatchewan, City of Regina and University of Regina.

PCC has presented a total request from the City of Regina of \$2,719,000, which is the same as their 2021 request which was included and approved in the City's 2021 budget. This includes an

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operating funding request of \$2,119,000 and a capital request of \$600,000 in 2022. The capital budget includes capital upgrades/improvements related to the following projects:

- Albert Street Upgrades
- Fitness Station Walkways
- 23rd Connection Moving Fence and Paving
- Candy Cane Park Pathway
- Wayfinding Signage
- Wascana Drive Lighting Upgrades

DECISION HISTORY

On July 7, 2021 (EX21-50), the Executive Director, Financial Strategy & Sustainability presented an Economic and Preliminary 2022 Budget Development Update to the Executive Committee.

On October 20, 2021(EX21-71), the Executive Director, Financial Strategy & Sustainability presented the 2022 Budget Update to the Executive Committee.

The recommendation contained in this report is within the authority of the Executive Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A - REAL 2022 Budget Submission Appendix B - EDR 2022 Budget Submission Appendix C - PCC 2022 Budget Submission

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