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Subject: Construction of a New Animal Shelter

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Report Number: Legislative Services-2021-725

Recommendations:

THAT the funds approved for the construction of a new Animal Shelter at 475/485 Chrysler Drive be used to build at an alternate site.

Overview:

- This report seeks Council approval of, and authorization to construct a new Animal Shelter facility at a new location on City owned land.
- The current shelter is located in the east end of the city, a new site would allow for the shelter to be centrally located, to better serve our residents.
- The construction is estimated to take two years once started. Building at a new site would allow the existing Animal Shelter to continue to operate at its current service levels.

Background:

As part of the 2021 budget, City Council approved \$23,000,000 for the construction of a new Animal Shelter at the current shelters existing location at Chrysler Drive. The location was the properties previously occupied by Animal Services and the Enforcement Division. In January of 2019, the Enforcement Division relocated to the FCCC campus which allowed Animal Services to expand into the vacated Enforcement building.

Current Situation:

The design of the Animal Shelter was to include a 5 acre off leash dog park. The cost of the new dog park is minimal in the overall scope of the project, however there is insufficient space at the current shelter location (Chrysler Drive) to add this public amenity. Further, the demolition of the existing shelter would force staff to operate from temporary locations not ideally suited for the care of animals. Additional, the present shelter is not centrally located for easy access by most of the community.

Staff are in the process of identifying several potential locations to build a new Animal Shelter on City owned lands which would allow for the inclusion of a dog park and allow operations to continue at the existing shelter during construction. Staff are seeking approval for a change of location before proceeding to the RFP stage to obtain the services of an architect.

Corporate Implications:

Financial Implications:

Funding for the construction of the proposed Animal Shelter - is available from the following source:

Project #	Budget Available
215180-002	\$23,000,000

There is currently sufficient capital funding available to proceed with this initiative. Any additional capital funding and any operating cost estimates resulting from this initiatives will be provided in future council reports or through the annual budget process for council’s consideration.

Realty Implications:

Several City owned properties are currently being assessed for suitability with this project.

Project Implications:

The approval of this report will allow staff to proceed with tendering the project.

Term of Council Priorities:

Well-Run City

This procurement is to determine the future needs of Animal Services, start the design and provide contract administration services for the facility.

Conclusion:

To maintain the project schedule, it is recommended that Council approve the option of using the funds allocated for the construction of a new Animal Shelter at a new location.

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