

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9 | www.princegeorge.ca

DATE: January 16, 2024

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Blake McIntosh, Director Civic Operations

SUBJECT: 2024 Capital Project #0302 – Memorial Park Cemetery Enhancement

ATTACHMENT(S): None

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated January 16, 2024 from the Director of Civic Operations titled “2024 Capital Project #0302 – Memorial Park Cemetery Enhancement.”

PURPOSE:

To provide Council a brief overview of the Memorial Park Cemetery Enhancement project submitted within the proposed 2024 Capital Plan as requested at the November 4, 2023 Finance and Audit meeting.

BACKGROUND:

In 2000, Hilton Landmarks Inc provided the City with a Cemetery Development and Management Plan which provide options for improved operations and recommendations for future growth and expansion of the cemetery. The existing developed portion of the cemetery lands currently provide capacity for the next 10-15 years of burials. At this time, only one section remains un-registered and un-surveyed. To increase capacity and proactively plan for future cemetery needs, development of the 7 acres of bare lands within the cemetery footprint requires a fulsome development plan. Future progression would include fencing of the 7 acres bordered by Highway 16, Ferry Avenue and Lansdowne Street and associated future capital project. As part of the overall expansion, an enhanced cemetery entrance project was submitted for Council approval within the proposed 2024 Capital Expenditure Plan. The formalized entrance would aesthetically improve the main access to Memorial Park Cemetery and create a stronger identity for this civic facility. It would also provide a future opportunity to improve security of the cemetery.

The Memorial Park Cemetery currently has operating hours open to the public from 8:00am to 8:00pm. These hours would not change with the addition of a new, formalized entry feature. The entry structure would have an option to install a security gate for limiting after hour vehicular access to the main parking lot outside of normal operating hours but this addition may be better suited when the 7 acres of bare land is fully fenced and developed.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The Memorial Park Cemetery Enhancement project supports the City’s myPG goals of Clear Identity and Pride, and Safe Environment.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Memorial Park Cemetery Enhancement Project has a 2024 capital budget of \$315,000.00 funded by the General Infrastructure Reinvestment Fund.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

The Memorial Park Cemetery Enhancement capital project supports recommendations made within the Cemetery Development and Management Plan created in 2000. The purpose of this project is to formalize the main entrance into the cemetery, improve the visual aesthetics of the access and allow for consideration of future security options.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Blake McIntosh, Director of Civic Operations

PREPARED BY: B. McIntosh

APPROVED:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting Date: 2024/01/22