RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Council APPROVES the addition of the YMCA Park House Care and Learning Centre project to the 2020-2024 Financial Plan for a total project budget of $3,979,866 composed of third party funding consisting of $2,982,316.69 from the Province of BC, and $997,549.31 from the Union of BC Municipalities.

PURPOSE:
Administration is seeking Council’s authorization to add the YMCA Park House Care and Learning Centre project to the 2020-2024 Financial Plan.

BACKGROUND:
In early 2019, Council approved Administration’s request to submit an application under UBCM’s 2019 Community Child Care Planning Program in the amount of $25,000, to engage in child care planning activities. The application was successful and the City completed a Child Care Action Plan that included space creation targets to address significant demand for licensed, group childcare.

These targets informed the development of applications that the City submitted to the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund and the Union of BC Municipalities’ Community Child Care Space Creation Program to enable development of an 85 space childcare centre, to be operated by the YMCA of Northern BC, at 1075 – 6th Avenue. Both applications were approved, resulting in a total funding envelope of $3,979,866. This funding envelope represents the total project cost.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:
To address social health and well-being goals and pending capital grant approval, the facilitation of a childcare development was identified as a 2020 Corporate Work Plan priority.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:
The total budget for the 85 space childcare centre is $3,979,866. One hundred percent (100%) of the project cost is funded by grants received from the Province of BC and the Union of BC Municipalities.
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:
Administration is seeking Council’s authorization to add the YMCA Park House Care and Learning Centre project to the 2020-2024 Financial Plan. The 85 space child care centre, to be located at 1075 6th Avenue, will address significant demand for licensed, group childcare in the downtown. The project is funded in its entirety by grants received from the Province of BC and the Union of BC Municipalities.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:
Ian Wells, Acting Deputy City Manager

PREPARED BY: Chris Bone, Senior Manager of Strategic Initiatives & Partnerships

APPROVED:
Walter Babicz, Acting City Manager

Meeting Date: 2020/12/21