

Council Highlights

Committee of the Whole: March 20, 2023

Delegation ~ Dog With A Bone Society

Mr. Ron Voss from Dog With A Bone Society provided a presentation to Committee of the Whole the provisions contained within the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw 12/2018. Mr. Voss proposed the bylaw be amended so that the public be allowed to lodge a complaint against Members of Council.

Administration identified that a fulsome review of the Bylaw is in progress. Council directed Administration to review the current bylaw and report back with recommended changes at a future Council meeting.

Jim Uffelmann Park Project Update

Administration provided an update to Council on the project plan for the Jim Uffelmann Park project. Jim Uffelmann park is a multi-use pathway, with high usage by a diverse group of stakeholders. The area is known as an off-leash space and is a popular destination for many off-leash dog walkers in Cochrane. Walkers enjoy the scenic route, alongside many runners and cyclists.

This study was initiated by administration to answer: What are the current uses of the site? What is the social impact of these uses? What is the environmental impact of the uses?

The project kicked off in November. A formal, targeted stakeholder engagement was held on February 8th and a survey will be available to the wider public in mid-April with a final report due back to Council by November 2023.

Cochrane Light Up

Administration provided an update to Council on the Cochrane Light Up event as it relates to the large-scale events grant program. The grant provides matching funding of up to \$15,000 to eligible local not-for-profit organizations. The intent of the matching grant is to support festivals and events that further strengthen Cochrane's reputation as a vibrant community.

In 2022, support was provided to Cochrane Light Up, Annual Labour Day Parade and Cochrane NYE Family Celebration within the grant program. There is opportunity to reimagine the program in future years, however, for 2023 Administration is confident that all events will occur as expected.

The application process is open now and the final deadline to receive applications is May 1. At that time all applications will be reviewed and successful applicants informed within three weeks.

With the dissolution of the Light Up Committee and ongoing development of the Community Services Division, applications to deliver the event in partnership with Cochrane will be evaluated with specific consideration of the applicant's ability to successfully undertake the planning and execution of the event.

COLT Service Update

COLT is now in its third year of service. Administration provided an update to Council, which will form the foundation for future service delivery considerations to be brought forward to Council.

- 2022 had the highest system usage and productivity since COLT launch, with 4.71 passengers per vehicle-hour, and higher shared rides.
- Average monthly and weekday ridership are also the highest the system has seen, at 4,019 and 181 riders respectively.
- Service levels are also on track to the highest since system launch, at 64 vehicle service hours per weekday, versus 39.25 for most of 2022. This higher service has been planned since August 2022, now achievable due to full driver staffing, and is expected to decrease riders failing to be allocated buses.
- Heightened service levels are also reflected in the max number of serving buses during peak hours, at 6 versus 3 in 2022.
- Rider satisfaction with the system has overall been positive. For passengers who were able to secure rides, COLT is given an overall ride rating of 4.7/5.

The report will form the foundation for future service delivery considerations to be brought forward for Council consideration late April/early May.