

CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Food Gatherers Society – Request for Land Lease

Motion:

That Council direct Administration to investigate the feasibility of leasing the land adjacent to the current Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) detachment located at 9901 – 90 Street to the Fort Saskatchewan Food Gatherers Society.

Purpose:

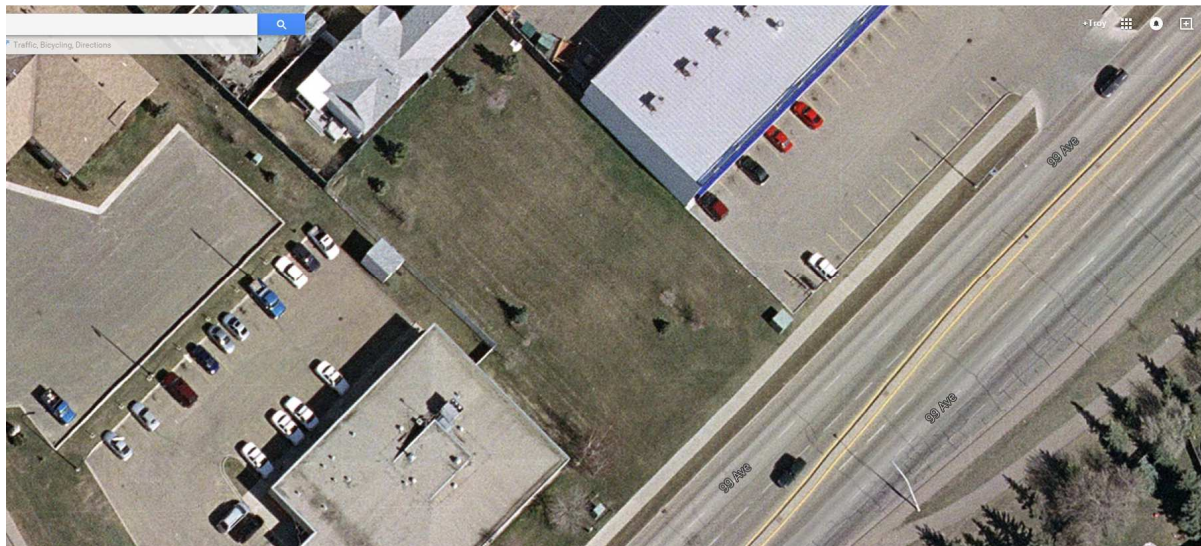
Council's consideration of the request made by the Fort Saskatchewan Food Gatherers Society for a lease on City owned property.

Background:

The Fort Saskatchewan Food Gatherers Society is a volunteer not-for-profit association that distributes food and food related items to people in need in our community. The Society operates a facility which it uses for storage and as a food bank. In addition, food and toy hampers are distributed at Christmas and the Society administers a school snack program to provide food for children who show up to school hungry.

The Society has stated that they are under considerable space restraints and are requesting the City to consider leasing them the city-owned land that sits adjacent to the current RCMP detachment for \$1.00 per year for an unlimited period of time.

Administration recommends that the request from the Food Gatherers Society to lease the subject land from the City of Fort Saskatchewan not be pursued.



Plans/Standards/Legislation:

At the present time, The City does not have a significant amount of strategic land holdings outside of the land dedicated to parks, facilities, operations, and utilities. This hampers the City's ability to undertake innovative developments for the benefit of the community and provides no flexibility to address future operational needs. The City does not have a land management strategy at this time, which is listed as a priority in the Strategic Plan and will likely be addressed in 2016 or 2017.

This request highlights the need for the City to have a land management strategy in place, as there are other not-for-profit groups and community initiatives that also require land. For example, Council directed Administration to seek options for a future Habitat for Humanity project in October 2014.

If Council wishes to have Administration explore this request, several factors would have to be explored:

- Rezoning the land from the current PS (Park Service District) Designation.
- Site servicing requirements.
- Site access and parking requirements.
- Lease arrangements and cost sharing considerations.
- Future land use considerations.

Financial Implications:

This feasibility study would be undertaken administratively. Potential costs may include consultation with technical experts regarding the site logistics. Legal fees may also be incurred regarding leasing options, in addition to a land appraisal consultation.

Alternatives:

1. That Council direct Administration to investigate the feasibility of leasing the land adjacent to the current Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) detachment located at 9901 – 90 Street to the Fort Saskatchewan Food Gatherers Society.
2. That Council not pursue the request from the Food Gatherers Society to lease the subject land from the City, and advise how they wish to proceed.

Attachments:

Appendix A - February 13, 2015 Letter of Request from the Fort Saskatchewan Food Gatherers Society.

File No.:

Prepared by:	Troy Fleming General Manager, Infrastructure and Community Services	Date: February 24, 2015
Approved/Reviewed by:	Troy Fleming General Manager, Infrastructure and Community Services Acting City Manager	Date: March 3, 2015
Submitted to:	City Council	Date: March 10, 2014