

CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Shell Theatre House Lighting

Motion:

That Council amend the 2017 Capital Budget and approve \$87,412 to replace existing house lighting fixtures with LED fixtures at the Shell Theatre from the Self-Financing Infrastructure Reserve.

Purpose:

Request funding to replace existing house lighting fixtures with LED fixtures at the Shell Theatre.

Background:

In the 2017 budget, two capital plan requests funded from the Equipment Reserve were approved for lighting at the Shell Theatre. The first was the life cycle replacement of the lighting console that controls all theatre lighting and the dimmers. The second project was the life cycle replacement of the theatre dimmer system which is the system that powers all of the theatre lighting adding visual effect. The system also provides power and control to the house, or audience, lights and some building lighting.

The replacements ensure that the Shell Theatre is able to meet the need for increased lighting channel counts that the new fixtures and equipment require and ensures we are able to continue to accommodate regional and national touring productions.

In preparing the information for the new light console and dimmer system it was determined that an existing design flaw with the house lighting, that has become a major operational maintenance concern, could be addressed.

The existing 22 lighting fixtures are a poor design, which uses a light bulb that is difficult to source and is very inefficient. Due to the design flaw, the light bulbs are only lasting 30% of lamp life so the bulbs are having to be replaced every 1,000 hours, which equates to a 2 – 4 month lifespan for the bulbs.

The house lighting fixtures are located at a significant height, which because of their design makes some of the fixtures very inaccessible. It can take four staff up to eight hours to replace the bulbs. With the number of booking dates each year, there are limited opportunities for staff to schedule and perform this maintenance. When the maintenance cannot be done, the audience area is left dark for those locations.

In the past, there was time allotted to schedule the maintenance required for the house lighting. With the increased scheduling at the Shell Theatre and the increased maintenance required due to lighting failures, bookings have been impacted.

The replacement fixtures are LED sources that require less maintenance, use less energy, produce less heat and provide a more even field of light. A new design in the space will be incorporated to ensure coverage is maintained with less fixtures. The prescribed lamp life expectancy for these LEDs is 7-10 years.

Culture Services has applied to the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund for \$87,412 to offset the short fall costs of these combined projects. The Fund supports the improvement, renovation and construction of arts and heritage facilities, as well as the acquisition of specialized equipment. A

decision on the grant should be received by the end of June. The lighting project needs to start in the next couple of weeks to ensure the fixtures can be received in time for the installation in July and August. Any amount received from the grant would offset the amount approved by Council.

Financial Implications:

\$87,412 would be required from the Self-Financing Infrastructure Reserve, but the amount could be reduced should Canada Culture Spaces funding be received.

Internal Impacts:

The expanded scope of the project can be accommodated within current staffing and existing vendor contract resources.

Alternatives:

1. That Council amend the 2017 Capital Budget and approve \$87,412 to replace existing house lighting fixtures with LED fixtures at the Shell Theatre from the Self-Financing Infrastructure Reserve.
2. That the Shell Theatre continue with the existing house lighting. Additional staff time will be required to complete the necessary maintenance.

Recommendation:

That Council amend the 2017 Capital Budget and approve \$87,412 to replace existing house lighting fixtures with LED fixtures at the Shell Theatre from the Self-Financing Infrastructure Reserve.

Prepared by:	Josh Gennings Theatre Supervisor	Date: May 15, 2017
Approved by:	Diane Yanch Director, Culture	Date: May 15, 2017
Approved by:	Jeremy Emann Chief Financial Officer	Date: May 16, 2017
Approved by:	Brenda Rauckman General Manager, Community and Protective Services	Date: May 16, 2017
Reviewed by:	Troy Fleming Interim City Manager	Date: May 18, 2017
Submitted to:	City Council	Date: May 23, 2017