

**Subject: Prairie Creek Integrated Trail****APPROVALS:****Annette Antoniak**\_\_\_\_\_  
Director\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer**Recommended Motion:**

THAT Administration be directed to bring forward a Capital Budget Request to implement option 4 for approval for construction in 2019-2020; and

THAT Administration be directed to further explore the potential to implement option 3 in the future.

**Summary:**

Administration was asked to investigate options for an integrated trail system and report back to Council with an implementation plan for the Prairie Creek Subdivision. The four options for consideration are:

- Option 1 - completely encircles the entire subdivision at an estimated cost of \$1.3M
- Option 2 - encircles approximately 75 percent of the subdivision at an estimated cost of \$928,000
- Option 3 - combines options one and two to create an integrated trail network at an estimated cost of \$1.4M.
- Option 4 - considers upgrading and augmenting of the internal sidewalk network to the 3-meter-wide hard surface standard at an estimated cost of \$445,000.

These options do not include land costs, as the location of a perimeter trail will be on provincially owned land.

**Background:**

Administration was directed to look at the possibility of creating an integrated trail network for the Prairie Creek subdivision. A new trail would be a class one trail that is three meters wide and would have asphalt surfacing. This trail could be used for walking, running, biking, dog walking or various forms of exercise. The task of placing a

perimeter trail around the Prairie Creek Subdivision is complicated, as most of the land adjacent to the subdivision is owned by the Province of Alberta. The land to the south and east is under lease to the Clearwater Horse Club by the province. The land to the west is owned by Alberta Transportation and the land to the north is part of the road right-of-way that is under Municipal jurisdiction. Prior to developing a perimeter trail, the Municipality would need to enter into a land agreement with the Province and possibly the lease holders occupying the land. Land Administration has advised that there is currently a land claim on one of the associated properties and they would require between 12 and 18 months to get the land agreements in place to accommodate a full trail system. Once land agreements are in place, Administration could bring forward a capital project for consideration in the 2020 or 2021 capital budget.

**Alternatives:**

The internal trail (Option 4) is recommended as the first phase of a two-phased approach. The second phase (one of the remaining three options) is a perimeter trail, as presented in one of Options 1, 2 or 3. Given the complexities involving legal land interests for these options, this determination can be accepted for later implementation following a process to ensure that one of these options is viable. Administration will not be able to construct the full perimeter trail (Phase 2) until all the necessary land agreements are completed.

**Budget/Financial Implications:**

Capital project for construction of trails and operational expense for trail maintenance. In addition, there may be an added expense for a lease agreement to occupy Provincial Lands for Options 1 through 3.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

Completion of the internal trail network (Phase 1) will provide both local and regional users opportunities to have upgraded trails in the Prairie Creek neighborhood. The second phase will require further investigation and negotiation with the Province of Alberta.

**Strategic Priorities:**

Responsible Government

**Attachments:**

**1. Prairie Creek Trail Options 1-4 Maps**

**2. Prairie Creek Trail Cost Estimate**

**Prairie Creek Integrated Trail Presentation**