



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

INTERNAL M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Will Pearce, Chief Administrative Officer **FILE:** 6100-14
PC: James Rice, Director, Operation Services **DATE:** March 17, 2022
FROM: Kendra Kryszak, Manager Parks & Public Spaces
SUBJECT: MARSHALL FIELD WASHROOMS – INCREASE IN SEASONAL OPERATION

The Marshall Field athletic park has one indoor public washroom that is located within the indoor soccer facility. The washroom is owned by the Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) and operated and maintained by the City from April 1 to October 31 annually. During the winter months the washroom is only available for use by users of the indoor soccer facility.

The indoor pickleball building also has its own washroom that is only intended to be available to individuals that are using the pickleball facility.

Over the years, winter use at the Marshall Field athletic park has seen a significant increase. The addition of the indoor soccer facility, indoor batting cage, pickleball facility, and more recently the construction of the new jumpstart playground, has all contributed to this increase in use. Increased use of the dog walking area through the winter months is also occurring. A number of sources have indicated that they are receiving requests from the public to keep the washroom facility open year round.

Opening the Marshall Field washroom facility year round would require Council authorization, and the permission of RDNO. From November 1 to March 31, the washrooms would be opened and cleaned on a regular basis from 8:00am until 5:00pm (daylight hours) seven days a week. The City would need to negotiate this change in service with RDNO and the North Okanagan Youth Soccer Association. Preliminary discussions with representatives from RDNO have indicated that this change would likely be accepted.

The additional annual cost to operate and maintain the facility through the winter months is estimated at \$35,000 (\$20,000 for the remainder of 2022). Council could decide to fund this service in 2022 from the 2021 Unexpended Uncommitted year end balance and as a tax supported service level adjustment in subsequent years.

No other parks washrooms in Marshall Fields are currently open after October for public use. In the past few years there does appear to be an increase in use of Marshall Field washroom from the street entrenched population during summer months. Opening the Marshall Field washroom facility through the winter season may result in increased costs relating to security and vandalism. This unknown potential cost is not reflected in the maintenance estimate provided.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receive the memorandum titled “Marshall Field Washrooms – Increase in Seasonal Operation” dated March 17, 2022, respectfully submitted by the Manager, Parks and Public Spaces;

AND FURTHER, that Council authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to execute an agreement with RDNO and/or the North Okanagan Youth Soccer Association extending the use, operation and maintenance of the Marshall Field washroom to include the months of November 1 to March 31 annually;

AND FURTHER, that Council approve \$20,000 for the operation and maintenance of the Marshall Field washroom from November 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, to be funded by the 2021 Unexpended Uncommitted year end balance;

AND FURTHER, that Council authorize Administration to bring forward a service level increase for consideration during the 2023 budget deliberations to extend operation and maintenance of the Marshall Field washroom facility to include January 1 to March 31 and November 1 to December 31 annually at a cost of \$35,000 to be funded by taxation.

X Kendra Kryszak
Digitally signed by: Kendra Kryszak
DN: CN = Kendra Kryszak
email = KKryszak@vernon.ca
ou = COV Users, Yards
Date: 2022.03.22 12:37:22 -07'00'

Signer 1

Kendra Kryszak,
Manager, Parks & Public Spaces