



Civics Report – September 2022

Things have been relatively quiet on the 'civics' file these past couple of months, as I think most people have been taking a well-deserved summer break after the past couple of years that we have had (I know that I certainly have).

That being said, things are starting to pick back up once again as we head into fall:

Speed limit changes for schools and playgrounds in effect September 1, 2022

- New signs and updates to existing signs have been installed to reflect these changes.
- All School Zones will be in effect year-round, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. 7 days a week.
- Some School Zone lengths will be adjusted and school zones will have new School Zone Ends signs.
- Where school zone signs do not include a posted speed limit (high schools), treat the sign as a caution and pay close attention.
- U-turns are still restricted for all schools.
- New Playground Zones will have a speed limit of 30 km/hr in effect year-round from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. 7 days a week.
- Playground zones will be created for park spaces that have play equipment or programmed sports fields intended for children 14 and under.
- Where playground signs do not include a posted speed limit, treat the sign as a caution and pay close attention. This may occur at playgrounds and fields intended for children older than 14 years, or streets where play equipment is physically separated from traffic.
- For more information: <https://www.saskatoon.ca/moving-around/driving-roadways/driving/school-zones/speed-limit-school-playground-zones>

Downtown Event Centre/Arena

- The City has started collecting feedback on two feasible locations for a potential Downtown event centre/arena: Midtown Shopping Centre North Parking Lot - this is the current parking lot across the street from TCU Place, next to the Hilton Garden Inn, and North Downtown/City Yards - this is between the new police station and 1st Avenue on the north side of 25th Street.
- The selection of a site for the Downtown event centre/arena is the start of the process towards a Downtown Event & Entertainment District, and there will be a number of engagement opportunities over the course of the project.
- The Public Survey will launch September 13, 2022, on [saskatoon.ca/engage](https://www.saskatoon.ca/engage).
- For more information on the Downtown Event & Entertainment District: <https://www.saskatoon.ca/business-development/major-projects/upcoming-projects/downtown-event-entertainment-district>
- Site selection criteria and map: https://www.saskatoon.ca/sites/default/files/documents/community-services/planning-development/DEED/site_selection_and_map_august_25.pdf
- Artist renderings of both potential sites: <https://www.saskatoon.ca/business-development/major-projects/upcoming-projects/downtown-event-entertainment-district/designing-reasons-connections-get-there>

Cart Size Options for Curbside Residential Garbage Collection

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- On Tuesday, September 6th the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services will meet to consider two different options for moving to a rate-based curbside residential garbage collection program in 2024, where residents pay for the volume of waste they dispose, based on the size of their garbage cart.
- Option 1 (recommended by City Administration): choice of three different cart sizes ranging from 180-litre, 240-litre, and the current 360-litre size carts.
- Option 2: choice of two different cart sizes: 240-litre and the current 360-litre size carts.

Shared E-Scooter Program

- The City of Saskatoon is developing a regulatory framework for a shared electric scooter (e-scooter) program in Saskatoon. Phase 2 of public engagement is now open and the City is looking for your feedback on the proposed framework for a shared e-scooter program in Saskatoon.
- For more information and to view the draft regulatory framework:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/engage/shared-e-scooter-program>

Resident Concerns:

- Recently residents have shared concerns with me regarding the potential impacts on the Exhibition neighbourhood of the proposed soccer stadium development at Prairieland Park, as well as incidents of thefts from back alleys and loose and aggressive dogs.
- The proposed soccer stadium at Prairieland Park would certainly have an impact on the Exhibition neighbourhood. Of particular concern is the increase in vehicle traffic that regular events at this new stadium would entail, as road entrance/exits to Prairieland Park are limited and events at Prairieland Park can already cause traffic problems on adjoining streets. Noise, litter, increased foot traffic and the potential for increased theft, vandalism, etc., are also concerns. This proposed development is still in its early stages and has not yet secured the capital necessary to proceed, but as that process continues I will look for opportunities to make the concerns of Exhibition residents known.
- Regarding thefts from back alleys, I strongly recommend that residents report any and all such incidents to the police. Even if the culprits are long gone it is still worthwhile to report these incidents so that police and policy makers have accurate crime data when making policing decisions. The squeaky wheel gets the grease, as the saying goes. You may file a police report in-person at the police station on 25th Street, or through the Saskatoon Police website at: <https://saskatoonpolice.ca/online-reporting/>. Additionally, security measures such as improved fencing, locking your gates, sheds, and garages, motion detector lights, security cameras, etc., are always a good idea.
- The animal control by-law is very clear that unless they are on your own fenced property or at an off-leash park, dogs must be kept on a leash and under their owner's control at all times. All dogs can bite, so any loose dog is a potential danger, and no dog should ever be allowed to attack another animal or a person. If you encounter an aggressive dog (or other animal), or a dog at large, please call the Saskatoon Animal Control Agency Hotline at 306-385-7387 (available 24/7).
- For more information on reporting dangerous animals:
https://www.saskatoon.ca/sites/default/files/documents/community-services/recreation-sport/animal-services/controlling_dangerous_animals_brochure_web.pdf

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