



**Council Member Motion**  
**For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**To:** Committee of the Whole  
**From:** Councillor Gardiner and Councillor Hammond  
**Subject:** Postponing Centennial Square Redesign

**Date:** July 03, 2025

**BACKGROUND**

On July 2, through a press release, the Mayor's Community Safety and Wellbeing (CSWB) Plan noted that \$2.5 million of grant funding from the Province's Growing Community Grant Funding (GCGF), obtained for the Centennial Square project will be redirected to other public realm projects, specifically those identified in the Community Safety and Wellbeing plan. The press release also identifies a short-fall of **\$3.262 million** to carry out the actions committed for 2025.

With this movement of \$2.5 million, here is the new budget (and originally proposed budget) for the Centennial Square redesign

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>New Budget</u>
Design	750,000.00	750,000.00
Construction	11,350,000.00	8,850,000.00
	<u>12,100,000.00</u>	<u>9,600,000.00</u>
Funding:		
Growing Community Grant Funding	4,500,000.00	2,000,000.00
Art in Public Places Reserve	150,000.00	150,000.00
Climate Adaptation Grant (UBCM) - <b>Note 1</b>	713,510.00	713,510.00
Debt	6,736,490.00	6,736,490.00
	<u>12,100,000.00</u>	<u>9,600,000.00</u>
<b>Note 1:</b>		
The Climate Adaptation Grant is now TBD until next steps are completed for a modified design.		
Since staff are potentially changing scope and deliverables, we will need to confirm with UBCM		
that we would be eligible to still receive the full grant amount.		

Hence the City is still going ahead with construction, however, starting on the West side and leaving the East side (including removal of the sequoia tree) until another year.

It appears there is significant support for the City's new CSWB initiative to take quick action on crime, social disorder and ways to find housing for the unhoused. However, this week's proposal is still \$3.262 million short at the same time we are allocating the remaining \$2 million from the Province's Growing Community Grant Funding and going into debt to the tune of more than \$6.7 million for the Centennial Square redesign.

We need to send a message of "security over splashpads".

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

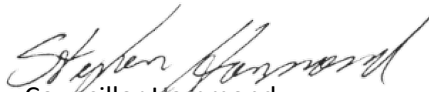
That Council request staff to:

1. Allocate the remaining \$2 million from the Province's Growing Community Grant Funding towards Council's most recent CSWB action items for 2025, and
2. Find the additional \$1.262 million from other City funds and/or reserves
3. Postpone further redesign of Centennial Square until the City doesn't go into debt over this project.
4. Allocate the \$150,000 from the Art in Public Places Reserve and additional funding from other City funds and/or reserves as needed to remediate the monoliths and fountain area.

Respectfully submitted,

A blue ink signature, appearing to be "Gardiner", written in a cursive style.

Councillor Gardiner

A blue ink signature, appearing to be "Stephen Hammond", written in a cursive style.

Councillor Hammond