

Community Liaison Update

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Hello Everyone,

Earlier this year, we discussed a fall meeting with the First Place liaison committee to update communities on developments in their neighbourhoods. The City of Edmonton and Landmark Homes will be sending invitations to all First Place liaison volunteers to visit the Caernarvon First Place building site (Caernarvon Keep) for an exclusive tour of a newly completed show home. The tours will likely take place in November, followed by a First Place liaison meeting to update volunteers on program progress.

Recently a community league president has shared concerns that some residents are confusing First Place Program income ceiling eligibility criteria with income subsidies. You may remember our earlier handout points out the First Place Program is market housing not subsidized rental housing. We will update the handout material soon to reflect this information on the first page and send the update out to all First Place liaison volunteers.

We have received inquiries regarding community recreation needs assessments and have worked with colleagues in the Community Services Department to prepare a response to these inquiries. The City's position can be seen at the link below:

http://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/urban_planning_and_design/surplus-school-sites-faq.aspx

The City is issuing a public Request for Proposal (RFP) competition to retain a consultant firm to support further community engagement work related to surplus school building sites. The successful consultant will comment on our proposed public engagement process, implement the finalized engagement process on two to four pilot sites and recommend how the engagement process will be evaluated when processes with the pilot sites are complete.

This work will focus on the form of new residential development to be recommended (sites where new use has not yet been approved) and on a discussion of re-siting possibilities (for approved First Place sites not yet initiated, approved Senior Housing sites, and remaining building sites). We anticipate that the engagement process may require approximately 8-9 months to complete, but cannot determine time lines until a consultant is selected. The RFP competition will open on September 27 and close near the end of October, after which all submissions will be reviewed and the selection process will begin. If you are interested in learning more, please email me. If there is sufficient interest we can ask the consultant to meet with all community liaison volunteers to discuss the proposed public engagement process.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to informing your community. We look forward to seeing First Place liaisons at the Caernarvon show home tour in November.

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