Village Square Leisure Centre Cogeneration Project

What is the cogeneration project?
The City and ENMAX are working together to reduce the utility costs of Village Square Leisure Centre, a multipurpose recreation facility in northeast Calgary.

A cogeneration system will be installed exterior to the building on the northeast corner in the spring/summer of 2015. The cogeneration system will reduce the facility’s reliance on the electric grid, including lowering transmission and distribution costs. Captured runoff heat will also be used to help heat the facility’s swimming pools.

What is cogeneration?
Cogeneration is a proven and reliable technology that uses natural gas to generate electricity and convert runoff heat into usable energy. Cogeneration uses an onsite natural gas generator to produce electricity. During the production of electricity, some energy is discarded as wasted heat. In a cogeneration system, runoff heat is captured and put to useful work.

Why is this project being undertaken?
The City is committed to improving the operating efficiency of its facilities. The project is consistent with Council priorities for efficient energy management resulting in cost savings.

What are the outcomes of the project?
More efficient operation means the cost to operate the facility is reduced. In this case, the cogeneration system is expected to save the facility 11 per cent in utility costs.

How will users be affected?
There will be no impacts to service during installation. Minimal noise is expected during construction.

What are the impacts to adjacent residents?
The cogeneration unit will be enclosed in a container designed to reduce sound emissions. Area residents will notice little difference in sound levels, which are below acceptable sound levels outlined in Alberta Utilities Commission Regulations and The City’s Community Standards Bylaw 5M2004.

Who will maintain the cogeneration unit?
The cogeneration system will be installed, owned and operated by ENMAX. ENMAX will be responsible for all regulatory filings necessary to construct and operate the cogeneration system.