



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Chief Administrative Officer

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Margaret Misek-Evans, Chief Administrative Officer

Date to Council: January 12, 2021

Report Number: CAO-2021-03

Subject: Investing in Canada's Infrastructure Program: COVID-19 Resilience Stream

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That Report CAO-2021-03, Investing in Canada's Infrastructure Program (ICIP): COVID-19 Resilience Stream, **be received**;

And that Council **approve** the change in project composition to that contained within Report CAO-2021-03 to utilize the total value of \$342,607 in eligible project costs;

And further that Council **authorize** the transfer of \$210,000 from the Lifecycle Buildings Reserve to the Lifecycle Fire Apparatus Reserve in order to enable the purchase of a High Water Rescue Vehicle as part of the Fire & Rescue Services 2021 Capital budget, on confirmation of approval of the Town's ICIP application.

Background

At the Regular Council meeting of November 24, 2020, Report CAO-2020-09 regarding an application under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) COVID-19 Resilience Stream was considered by Council. At that time, Council approved Administration to apply for approval to use the Town's funding allocation of \$342,607 for:

- Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation for flood adaptation equipment, specifically a High Water Rescue Vehicle; and

- COVID-19 Response Infrastructure for elements of Town Hall to assist with COVID-19 resilience, including projects related to Town Hall HVAC unit replacement, installation of glass barriers in the Lobby of Town Hall and technology enhancements including electronic wayfinding screens, room displays, web-based appointment booking software and automatic vehicle location technology in more Town vehicles.

Since the time of that report, Administration learned that the High Water Rescue Vehicle does not fit the program criteria as it is not a fixed asset. Accordingly, Administration has revised the project composition to ensure that the Town maximizes its allocation with eligible projects. Submission of the application was completed on December 18, 2020.

Comments

To ensure the Town's application consisted of eligible projects, Administration focussed the project composition on Category 2: COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure, including measures to support physical distancing. Within this category, retrofits to public sector buildings are eligible for funding, provided these are related to enhancing COVID-19 resilience. Accordingly, the Town's project mix was modified to include:

- Replace 10 (all original) HVAC units at Town Hall with energy-efficient units to provide better air quality/filtration and enhance total building air exchange to reduce the spread of airborne disease;
- Add 10 portable air filtration units to enhance filtration of airborne contaminants in other Town facilities;
- Install 10 – 3ft counter-top glass barriers and 12 electronic wayfinding signs/meeting room displays in Town Hall to enhance physical distancing between staff and the public and to reduce the need for person-to-person interaction;
- Install an electronic on-line appointment booking system to be used Town-wide (all departments) to reduce person-to-person interaction while continuing to provide customer service;
- Install an electronic payment system for bulk water purchases to provide a convenient and remote method of payment for bulk water purchases, thereby reducing the need for person-to-person interaction.

These projects combined will utilize the Town's full allocation of \$342,607.

The High Water Rescue Vehicle remains a priority for the Town and is an intended purchase for 2021. As explained in the Financial Implications section of the report, it will be feasible to continue with this purchase by transfer of funds between reserves, subject to Council approval.

Also of note in the list above, the bulk water purchase payments system was originally listed as one of the projects to be undertaken using the one-time Municipal Modernization Fund (MMF) received in 2019 (Report CAO-2019-05). This project was allocated \$20,000 under the MMF funding to install a Water Oasis payment solution. The Town maintains two bulk water depots at Fire Station 2 in Oldcastle and the Public Works yard on Lacasse. The intent is to upgrade

these depots with a Water Oasis payment solution so users do not have to come to Town Hall customer service to pay for bulk water before accessing it. This will be more convenient for the users and also, in the context of COVID-19, a safer way to pay for bulk water for both the purchaser and Town staff. On further research into this system, it was found to be considerably more money than the funds allocated in the MMF. Accordingly, part of the cost has been proposed in the ICIP COVID-19 Resilience Fund application, with the balance within the 2021 draft water budget. The project was thought to be a better fit in this funding stream and will assist the Town in utilizing the full allocation.

Consultations

Information & Communication Services
Financial Services
Parks & Recreation Services

Financial Implications

Provided the Town's application is approved, ICIP: COVID-19 Resilience Stream funds will be used for the purchase of COVID resilience infrastructure detailed in this report that would have otherwise been largely funded from the Town's Lifecycle Buildings Reserve.

As such, Administration recommends a one-time transfer of funds from the Lifecycle Buildings Reserve to the Lifecycle Fire Apparatus Reserve in the amount of \$210,000 to fund the purchase of the High Water Rescue Vehicle.

An increase to the annual allocation towards the Lifecycle Fire Apparatus Reserve should be considered during the 2022 Budget process to provide for the future replacement of this addition to the Fire Apparatus Fleet.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that Tecumseh's current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh's plans and priorities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steward the Town's "continuous improvement" approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrate the Town's leadership role in the community by promoting good governance and community engagement, by bringing together organizations serving the Town and the region to pursue common goals.

Communications

Not applicable ☒

Website ☐ Social Media ☐ News Release ☐ Local Newspaper ☐

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed by:

Wade Bondy
Director Fire Services & Fire Chief, C.E.M.C.

Reviewed by:

Shaun Fuerth, BCS
Director Information & Communication Services

Reviewed by:

Tom Kitsos, CPA, CMA, BComm
Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer

Reviewed by:

Paul Anthony, RRFA
Director Parks & Recreation Services

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
None	