



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Public Works & Engineering Services

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Phil Bartnik, Director Public Works & Engineering Services

Date to Council: November 26, 2024

Report Number: PWES-2024-55

Subject: Intact Municipal Climate Resiliency Grants Program
Tecumseh Tree Planting Program

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That report PWES-2024-55 Intact Municipal Resiliency Grants Program, Tecumseh Tree Planting Program, **be received**;

And that Administration **be authorized** to submit an application to Intact for funding under the Municipal Climate Resiliency Grants Program for Tecumseh's Tree Planting Program;

And further that the Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer and Director Public Works & Engineering Services **be authorized** to sign any required documents necessary to complete the application and the subsequent documentation for the Municipal Climate Resiliency Grants Program.

Background

The Municipal Climate Resiliency Grants (MCRG) Program is a climate adaptation program to build resilient communities, with a focus on municipalities. The MCRG program aims to invest in projects that increase a community's resiliency to flood and wildfire risks. Specifically, the fund intends to fund projects that:

- Target a community that is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change as to mitigate flooding and/or wildfire risk;
- Has specific outcomes and indicators for success and;
- Is scalable across the community.

Priority will be given to projects that have considered or completed Intact's Municipal Flood Risk Check Up tool or FireSmart Canada's Wildland Fire Hazard Assessment for neighborhoods.

Each project will be funded up to \$200,000 and one application is permitted per project. Further details on the MCRG are provided on the program [website](#).

All Canadian municipalities are eligible to receive funding.

The **deadline to submit an application is January 31, 2025**. Projects must be completed within 1-2 years of when funding is received.

The MCRG program is funded entirely through an investment from Intact Financial Corporation (Intact). Intact is the largest provider of property and casualty insurance in Canada and is the Town's insurance carrier.

Comments

Recommended Project for Tecumseh

Following review of possible projects for the MCRG program, Administration is recommending continuation of the Town's efforts to implement the 'Boulevard Street Tree Enhancement Program.'

At the February 13, 2024, Council Meeting, Council approved report PWES-2024-07 for the 2024-2028 PWES Five-Year Capital Works Plan which included the Boulevard Street Tree Enhancement Program (Motion: RCM-21/24). With an allocation of \$125,000, this program will install approximately 250 boulevard trees in 2024, in addition to the 55 trees that are planted annually by Community & Recreation Services (CRS). Report PWES-2024-07 also projected to continue the program throughout the 5-year capital works plan, with an allocation of \$125,000 each year.

Administration attended a webinar hosted by Intact on October 15, 2024 in relation to MCRG. This webinar was the first of Intact's webinar series and was specific to Flood Resilience projects. Tree planting and naturalization of pervious areas was recognized as a potential project that could be funded through MCRG.

If the Town's application were to be approved, this would provide for an increased allocation and continuation of the current street tree enhancement program and facilitate the planting of approximately 400 additional trees across the Town in boulevards and other locations such as Town parks as deemed suitable by the Manager of Horticulture. This would serve to benefit the community and meet the goals set forth in the Town's 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration. Ultimately, this would support the Town's ongoing commitment to enhance the urban tree canopy as documented in the Official Plan (2021) and recent funding allocations approved by Council for increased tree plantings.

Consultations

Community & Recreation Services
Financial Services
Dillon Consulting Ltd.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

If funding is received from the Intact Municipal Climate Resiliency grant program, this would be added to the previously approved budget allocation for the Boulevard Street Tree Enhancement Program, under report PWES-2024-07 PWES Five Year Capital Works Plan (Motion: RCM-21/24).

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2023-2026 Strategic Priorities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Experience: Enhance the experience of Team Tecumseh and our citizens through responsive and respectful service.

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:

Joseph Lappalainen, E.I.T.
Project Technician

Reviewed by:

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

Reviewed by:

Beth Gignac, BA Hons
Director Community & Recreation Services

Reviewed by:

Phil Bartnik, P.Eng.
Director Public Works & Engineering Services

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
None	None