

CORPORATE REPORT

NO: R036 COUNCIL DATE: February 26, 2024

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council DATE: February 22, 2024

FROM: General Manager, Engineering FILE: 5225-23

SUBJECT: 2024 Community Emergency Preparedness Fund - Disaster Risk Reduction -

Climate Adaptation Program Intake

RECOMMENDATION

The Engineering Department recommends that Council:

- 1. Receive this report for information;
- 2. Endorse the 6o Ave drainage pump station project and direct staff to submit an application to the 2024 Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Disaster Risk Reduction Climate Adaptation program intake which is due on March 28, 2024; and
- Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the related funding agreement with the Province of British Columbia for the aforementioned project, should it be approved for funding.

INTENT

The intent of this report is to obtain Council endorsement of the 60 Ave drainage pump station project and submit an application for funding to the Province of British Columbia's 2024 Community Emergency Preparedness Fund - Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation ("CEPF DRR-CA") program intake.

BACKGROUND

The Provincial CEPF DRR-CA program offers diverse funding streams to aid First Nations and local governments in bolstering disaster preparedness and reducing risks from natural hazards amid climate change. Managed by the Union of BC Municipalities ("UBCM") and funded by the Province of British Columbia, the CEPF DRR-CA program has received \$369 million in provincial contributions since its inception in 2017. In early 2023, the Province announced a further \$180 million contribution to the CEPF DRR-CA program.

The funding stream has three distinct categories. Each category can contribute 100% of the cost of eligible activities to a maximum of:

- Category 1: Foundational activities (such as risk mapping and assessments) \$150,000 per applicant;
- Category 2: Non-structural activities (such as land use planning and community education) \$150,000 per applicant; and
- Category 3: Small scale structural activities (such as flood protection infrastructure) \$5 million.

The CEPF DRR-CA Evaluation Committee may recommend that an application be approved in full or in part, based on the available funding and the merit of the proposed project in each category. If approved, projects must be completed within two years; therefore, structural projects need to be near shovel-ready and/or have straightforward regulatory and land requirements to meet the funding timeline. Further, the program stipulates that the applicant must be the owner of the project being applied for.

In October 2023, the City applied for a \$4.975 millioni grant as part of the 2023 CEPF DRR-CA intake, which included upgrades to the Upper Serpentine River dyke east of Highway 15 and Latimer Creek, as well as structural upgrades to the Fry's Corner Pump Station.

For the 2024 CEPF DRR-CA intake, the City intends to apply for funding under Category 3 to support a flood protection project that will further enhance flood resiliency in Surrey's Serpentine- Nicomekl floodplain.

DISCUSSION

The City's 2024 CEPF DRR-CA program application includes the construction of a new drainage pump station near 16060 60 Avenue, as illustrated in the map attached to this report as Appendix "I". This pump station, which was identified in the North Cloverdale Functional Plan study, is one of two remaining drainage pump stations identified in the City's lowlands drainage studies that have yet to be constructed. The other pump station (renewal of the Nicomekl pump station near 4868 168 Street), was included in the City's 2023 application to Infrastructure Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund ("DMAF") program.

Staff selected this project as it clearly meets the objectives of the CEPF DRR-CA program requirements, is required to support and enhance drainage servicing in the Serpentine-Nicomekl floodplain, and has not been included in other funding the City has applied for. By submitting a distinct project that has not been included in other funding applications, staff believe that the City will have the best chance in successfully securing funding under the CEPF DRR-CA program.

The project will improve drainage service levels by achieving Agricultural and Rural Development Subsidiary Agreement ("ARDSA") drainage criteria, and will reduce flood vulnerability of the catchment area that the new drainage pump station will service. The catchment area is currently reliant on flood boxes only, which cannot effectively drain the area when water levels in the Serpentine River are high. The pump station can be located within existing road allowance on 60 Avenue, thereby eliminating the need for land acquisition.

Staff are engaging with consultants to finalize the project's initial costing, with anticipated construction to commence in 2025 should funding be secured.

Pending Council's endorsement, staff will finalize the funding application for the 2024 CEPF DRR-CA program intake to meet the March 28, 2024, submission deadline.

CONCLUSION

Securing funding through the 2024 CEPF DRR-CA program intake will allow the City to continue supporting the protection of vulnerable farmland against climate change-induced challenges such as riverine flood hazards. This funding will enable the City to implement critical projects and initiatives aimed at reducing flood vulnerability and strengthen the community's ability to withstand and recover from flood events.

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Appendix "I" – Project Map

https://surreybc.sharepoint.com/sites/eng.administration/gm administration/corporate reports/2024/feb 26/emergency preparedness cepf drr-ca funding request/2024 emergency preparedness cepf drr-ca funding request (02212024) final.docx

