



Corporate NO: R011

Report COUNCIL DATE: January 15, 2001_

REGULAR COUNCIL			
TO:	Mayor & Council	DATE:	January 11, 2001
FROM:	General Manager, Planning & Development	FILE:	0003-136; 0312-001
SUBJECT:	Agricultural Development Strategy		

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

1. Approve the terms of reference for the preparation of the Agricultural Development Strategy as described in Appendix B of this report; and
2. Authorize staff to submit the terms of reference to the B.C. Ministry of Municipal Affairs as the basis for approval of a \$30,000 Community Planning and Development Grant.

BACKGROUND

At the October 25, 1999 Council-in-Committee meeting, Council received a delegation which presented the Surrey Agricultural Plan. Council referred the Agricultural Plan to staff for a report outlining how those elements of the Plan that are related directly to the City's jurisdiction may be reasonably incorporated into the City's future work plans.

At the April 18, 2000 Regular Council meeting, Council received as information a report on the Surrey Agricultural Plan Implementation Strategy. The strategy identified the Agricultural Plan recommendations that were within the City's jurisdiction and outlined how individual City departments would address those recommendations.

To assist with the costs of implementing Surrey's Agricultural Plan, the City of Surrey applied to the British Columbia Ministry of Municipal Affairs for a Community Planning and Development Grant in the amount of \$30,000. In a letter dated October 31, 2000, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, informed the City of Surrey that a Community Planning and Development Grant, in the amount of \$30,000, had been approved for the City of

Surrey (See Appendix A).

The grant requires that the City of Surrey contribute a minimum 50% of the project funding, and submit a specified deliverable early in 2002.

DISCUSSION

The Community Planning and Development Grant will assist the implementation of Surrey's Agricultural Plan. An Agricultural Plan Implementation Strategy, presented to Council in April 2000, provides a comprehensive listing of all Agricultural Plan recommendations related to City jurisdiction, and how those recommendations could be addressed within the work plans of City departments. The Plan and implementation strategy include a broad range of issues and actions. Conditions of the grant that has been approved by the Province require that Surrey identify a specific "deliverable" for early 2002.

Following discussions with the Surrey Agricultural Advisory Committee and representatives from the Economic Development Division and the Engineering Department, the Planning and Development Department has prepared a draft terms of reference for an *Agricultural Development Strategy* (See Appendix B. for a Draft Project Description). This proposed strategy would become the focus of Agricultural Plan implementation over the next 18 months and provide the "deliverable" for receipt of the provincial grant.

The terms of reference for the Agricultural Development Strategy have been reviewed with and endorsed by the Surrey Agricultural Advisory Committee. The terms of reference have also been reviewed with Provincial authorities who have confirmed that the Province is satisfied with the proposal subject to Council approval.

Project Schedule and Budget

The Agriculture Development Strategy project will begin in the second quarter of 2001, with the deliverable - Agriculture Development Strategy document - to be completed by the second quarter of 2002. The project will combine Provincial Community Planning and Development Grant funding with City resources for an estimated total cost of approximately \$80,000 for the first 3 phases (See Appendix B for draft expenditure estimates).

CONCLUSION

The Provincial Community Planning and Development Grant of \$30,000 will assist in the implementation of Surrey's Agricultural Plan received by Council in October 1999. The proposed Agriculture Development Strategy will become the focus for Agricultural Plan implementation over the next 18 months, and will constitute the deliverable to meet the conditions for approval of the Provincial grant funding.

It is recommended that Council approve the terms of reference for the Agriculture Development Strategy and authorize staff to submit the terms of reference (as contained in Appendix B) to the B.C. Ministry of Municipal Affairs as the basis on which Provincial grant approval will be completed.

Murray D. Dinwoodie

General Manager

Planning & Development Department

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Appendices:

- A. Letter of grant notification from Ministry of Municipal Affairs.
- B. Proposed project submission to Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

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