



Corporate NO: R012

Report COUNCIL DATE: January 15, 2001_

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council **DATE: January 11, 2001**

FROM: General Manager, Planning & Development **FILE: 2350-004/1**

SUBJECT: Application for Two Community Planning and Development Grants (Ministry of Municipal Affairs) to Defray Costs Associated with Completion and Implementation of the East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan and a Site Design Manual for Sustainable Communities

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning & Development Department recommends that Council pass the following resolution:

"That Council endorse two applications to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs for two Community Planning and Development Grants, as follows:

- 1) For \$30,000 to defray the costs to the City associated with completing and implementing the East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan, particularly with respect to achieving the sustainable development aspects of the plan; and
- 2) For \$30,000 to prepare a Site Design Manual for Sustainable Communities which is intended to bring together a number of inter-related issues concerning planning, designing and implementing more sustainable communities in B.C., using the East Clayton model as a case study."

INTENT

The intent of this report is to seek Council endorsement of two grant applications to assist in completing and implementing the East Clayton NCP and documenting the planning process for wide distribution to municipalities throughout B.C. A Council resolution is required by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs as part of the grant application process.

BACKGROUND

Council approved a general land use concept for the entire Clayton area in January 1999 and granted approval in principle for the development concept for East Clayton in November 1999. City staff have since been working with UBC, the Pacific Resources Centre, consultants, developers, the community, and various

government agencies on more detailed planning and design to ensure that the new ideas and concepts introduced in the plan to achieve the sustainable development principles will be successfully implemented.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs currently administers a Community Planning and Development Grant Program which offers financial assistance to municipalities for planning activities that are comprehensive and innovative, respond to community and regional change, support provincial planning goals, involve partnerships and demonstrate benefits for a community and other communities in the province.

DISCUSSION

Grant No. 1: Application to Defray the City's Costs Related to the East Clayton NCP

The East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan, particularly the sustainable development aspects of the plan, is an excellent candidate for a planning grant because it meets or exceeds the province's funding criteria. The innovative nature of the plan necessitates that, in comparison to conventional NCP areas, more of the City's resources be devoted to its implementation. In addition, City staff and Council are often called upon to relay the East Clayton experience and advances in sustainability to other municipalities and the public. The additional staff time and expenses associated with this work must be borne by the City. City staff, therefore, proposes to submit an application for \$30,000 to assist in covering these costs to complete the Neighbourhood Concept Plan and operationalize the policies and standards identified in the plan.

More specifically, the grant money will be used to offset the following costs:

- Finalizing policy directions, performance standards and urban design guidelines to ensure consistency with the sustainable planning objectives,
- Preparing standards, guidelines and by-laws required to implement the NCP;
- Responding to requests from other municipalities, developers, the media and others for information about the East Clayton NCP (the project has received considerable attention and recognition due to its innovation and success to date);
- City staff's participation in design sessions and extra time reviewing the new construction proposals;
- Preparing and commencing a monitoring program for the first development project in the NCP; and
- Preparing and delivering an information program for new and prospective home owners in East Clayton.

Depending on the work program and staff resources in 2001, some of the work outlined above may be undertaken by a consultant(s).

Grant No. 2: Application for Support to Prepare a Site Design Manual for Sustainable Communities

This application is to provide support for the production of a Design Manual for Sustainable Communities, which is to be prepared by staff of the James Taylor Chair in Landscape and Liveable Environments (UBC). The James Taylor Chair in Landscape and Liveable Environments (UBC, Patrick Condon) has been working closely with City staff and the community in the planning and design of the East Clayton NCP. Using the East Clayton experience as an important base, the Design Manual will explain innovative strategies for sustainable community design grounded in a real world community plan (East Clayton). The manual will contain best management practices for stormwater, land use and traffic planning for sustainable communities for use by Surrey and other municipalities in planning new neighbourhoods and development projects.

Subject to Council approval, a grant application for \$30,000 will be submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs on behalf of the UBC James Taylor Chair in Landscape and Liveable Environments. If approved, the grant money will be transferred to UBC upon project completion and submission of the deliverables to the Ministry.

CONCLUSION

The Community Planning and Development Grant Program, administered by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, provides up to \$30,000 annually per project on a cost shared basis to support selected municipal planning projects. City staff have identified two planning projects associated with East Clayton as excellent candidates for such assistance, and therefore are requesting City Council's endorsement of the grant applications, for a total of \$60,000, by passing the resolution recommended in this report. Council endorsement of the application is required as part of the application process.

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General Manager

Planning & Development Department

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