



Corporate *NO: R061*

Report *COUNCIL DATE: April 8, 2002*

REGULAR COUNCIL			
TO:	Mayor & Council	DATE:	April 4, 2002
FROM:	General Manager, Engineering	FILE:	1855-04 5225-23
SUBJECT:	Five Year Provincial Flood Protection Assistance Fund		

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council request that the Provincial Government fund a five-year Flood Protection Assistance Fund, to reduce the risk of flooding throughout B.C.
2. That Council request that the Provincial Government work with, and financially assist, local municipalities to prepare better floodplain maps and hydraulic models for the Fraser River.

BACKGROUND

For the past few years, the Fraser Basin Council has coordinated a committee to study the integration of Flood Hazard Management along the Fraser River. This Committee has recommended that local governments should work together to convince the Provincial and Federal Governments of the need for ongoing and stable funding for flood protection. Surrey has actively participated in this process and supports the Fraser Basin Council, Joint Program Committee for Integrated Flood Hazard Management recommendations regarding long-term senior government funding for flood protection works.

The City has enjoyed funding in the past from the Flood Protection Assistance Fund. We also have worked cooperatively with Mud Bay and Colebrook Dyking Districts to secure funds from this Program. Recent projects that were funded by the Flood Protection Assistance Fund and Provincial Emergency Program were:

- Colebrook Erosion Protection (1998) \$ 197,000
- Fraser River Freshet Flood Protection (1999) 1,063,000

- Crescent Beach Foreshore Protection (2000) 239,000
- Mud Bay Erosion Protection & Flood Box (2001) 186,000

This program has been very successful in facilitating important projects to reduce the risk of flooding in our community. However, in the latest Provincial budget, it was announced that the yearly funding would not be continued beyond 2003. At a minimum, the Province should commit to continue the annual \$3 million Flood Protection Assistance Fund beyond 2003 and for five more years so that projects can be planned in a proactive manner.

CONCLUSION

Similar resolutions have been passed by City of Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, New Westminster and Township of Langley, and its adoption by Surrey City Council will add further weight to the request to the Provincial Government. We understand that other neighbouring municipalities will be bringing similar resolutions.

Paul Ham, P. Eng.

General Manager, Engineering

VL:har

g:\2002\utilities\03251352vl.doc

BRB 4/8/02 3:36