

DATE OF MEETING | MARCH 18, 2020 |

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SUBJECT | **BC ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM** |

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report:

To advise the Finance and Audit Committee that the City has applied for three grants totalling \$827,866 from the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program.

BACKGROUND

The Province of BC's Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program (ATIG), provides financial assistance for community projects that focus on infrastructure that support safe, human-powered modes of active transportation for daily commuting to school, recreation, work, socializing, and errands.

To be eligible for ATIG, projects must be:

- part of an Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP), Cycling Network Plan, Active Transportation policy or referenced in an Official Community Plan and/or a Regional Growth Strategy
- at the stage where construction can begin once provincial funding has been announced
- open for public use once completed.

Projects costing under \$1M must be complete by the end of March 2021. Projects costing over \$1M must be complete by the end of March 2022.

For communities with a population over 25,000, the Province provides cost-share funding of 50% of up to a maximum of \$500,000 per project.

Communities can apply for multiple projects, but must prioritize the projects.

The Province will give preference to active transportation projects that:

- improve community connectivity
- improve safety
- improve economic opportunities
- improve physical and mental health
- improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gases.

The deadline for the first grant intake was 2020-FEB-20. Provincial funding announcements are expected in May 2020. Another grant intake is anticipated in the fall of 2020.

DISCUSSION

The City has applied for \$827,866 in grants for three active transportation projects that meet the eligibility requirements of the ATIG program. These projects were approved by Council in the 2019-2023 and 2020-2024 financial plans. Any grants received will offset and reduce funding used from reserves.

Priority	Project Name	Grant Applied For
1	Metral Drive Complete Street – Corridor & Utility Upgrades	\$500,000
2	Front Street Cycle Track	\$241,866
3	Caspers Way Multi-use Path	\$ 86,000

Metral Drive Complete Street – Corridor & Utility Upgrades

Phase 1 of this project includes 1.2 km of continuous sidewalks, unidirectional protected cycle tracks, raised intersections, curb extensions and marked crosswalks on Metral Drive from Mostar Drive to Turner Road. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2020 and be complete in the spring/summer of 2021. Total transportation related project budget (excluding utility upgrades) is approximately \$3.5M.

Front Street Cycle Track

This project includes provision of a 3.5 m cycle track on the existing Front Street roadway with a barrier separating it from traffic. Cycle traffic signals will be provided. Intersections will be rebuilt to narrow crossings and the Chapel Street slip lane will be removed. Construction is scheduled to be complete in 2020. Total project budget is approximately \$484K.

Caspers Way Multi-use Path

The project is a 100 meter long, four meter wide permeable rubber multiuse path connecting Caspers Way to Morey Road as part of the Off-Bowen Cycling Master Plan. Construction is scheduled to be complete in 2020. Total project budget is \$172K.

CONCLUSION

The City is actively pursuing other revenues such as grants to help offset the costs of active transportation projects.

SUMMARY POINTS

- The City has applied for three grants totalling \$827,866 from the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program.
- The Province is expected to make funding announcements in May 2020.
- Grants applications were submitted for the Metral Drive Complete Street – Corridor & Utility Upgrades project, Front Street Cycle Track project, and Caspers Way Multi-use Path project.
- If successful, these grants will reduce funding used from reserves.
- These projects are expected to be completed in 2020 or early 2021.

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