

# Staff Report for Decision

DATE OF MEETING DECEMBER 16, 2020

AUTHORED BY DEANNA WALKER, FINANCIAL ANALYST  
POUL ROSEN, DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING

**SUBJECT INVESTING IN CANADA INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM  
ADAPTATION, RESILIENCE AND DISASTER MITIGATION**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide Council with information on the Seabold Drive and Ptarmigan Way Drainage Upgrade project for application under the Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Program and obtain a council resolution.

### **Recommendation**

That Council direct Staff to submit an application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation for the Seabold Drive and Ptarmigan Way Drainage Upgrade project and commit to funding any cost overruns of the project.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program is a program aimed at creating long-term economic growth, building inclusive and sustainable communities, and supports a low carbon green economy. The Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Stream of this program will fund flood mitigation infrastructure projects that will support an increase in structural capacity and/or increased natural capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts, natural disasters and/or extreme weather events. The intent is to reduce, or even negate, the effects of flooding. The program is available to local governments, Indigenous Ultimate Recipients, and Not-for-Profit organizations.

The program targets shovel-ready projects that have a construction start date of no later than 2021-SEP-30 and that can be completed by 2021-DEC-31. A cost share between the federal and provincial government provides 100% funding for eligible projects. Projects must be standalone and funded solely under the funding stream and stacking rules apply therefore any cost overruns cannot be funded from senior government sources including the Gas Tax Community Works Funds received by the City annually.

The grant application deadline is **2021-JAN-11**.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff have identified the Seabold Drive and Ptarmigan Way Drainage Upgrade project as a good candidate for this funding stream.

The Seabold Drive drainage and outfall is part of the Eagle Point Drainage Catchment in the north end of Nanaimo and was constructed in 1980. Since then, climate change has increased the frequency and magnitude of runoff in the catchment area. This in combination with changes in design standards for drainage infrastructure has effectively reduced the level of service of the existing drainage system. This has been proven through intense rainfall events in 2016 and 2018 which caused significant flooding and damage to private properties, a public park, and other areas within this catchment. In addition, a drainage study was completed in 2020 that identified several deficiencies catchment and the drainage system at Seabold Drive and Ptarmigan Way was identified as the highest priority upgrade.

This project includes:

- Upsizing of drainage pipes and their configuration to provide maximum hydraulic capacity;
- Regrading of the intersection at Seabold Drive/Ptarmigan Way to provide a safe and effective overland flow route for major event flows; and,
- Construction of an inlet structure to capture overland flow and convey it to the existing outfall.

The City is currently in the design phase of the project with an engineering consultant, which will be completed in late spring of 2021 for subsequent tender and construction. Preliminary costing for the improvements has been estimated at \$772,000 and is included in the 2021-2025 Provisional Financial Plan. As the project is detailed further, a more refined cost estimate will become available which could result in a variance from this estimate. This may result in the City contributing funds towards this project. |

## **OPTIONS**

1. That Council direct Staff to submit an application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation for the Seabold Drive and Ptarmigan Way Drainage Upgrade project and commit to funding any cost overruns of the project.
  - The advantages of this option: This project will decrease the likelihood of flood events, and the resulting damage, at Seabold Drive, and provide a higher level of service of the drainage infrastructure in that area.
  - Financial Implications: This project is currently in the 2021-2025 Provisional Financial Plan for \$772,000 in 2021. As this is already in the plan, if the grant application is successful, the City would be able to allocate some or all of the funds to other priorities.
2. That Council provide alternative direction to Staff for a project to submit an application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Program. |

### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- The Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program provides up to 100% funding for eligible project costs.
- The City may submit one application.
- Applications are due by 2021-JAN-11.

#### **Submitted by:**

Deanna Walker  
Financial Analyst

Poul Rosen  
Director, Engineering |

#### **Concurrence by:**

Laura Mercer  
Director, Finance

Bill Sims  
General Manager, Engineering and Public  
Works

Shelley Legin  
General Manager, Corporate Services |