TO: Regional Board
FROM: Community Services
DATE: October 23, 2014
SUBJECT: Regional District Proposal – Community Works Funding

Purpose: To seek authorization from the Board to utilize the Gas Tax – Community Works Fund.

Executive Summary:
Federal Gas Tax Funds are provided to local governments across Canada to help fund their local infrastructure needs. Project eligibility categories have been expanded in 2014. Projects described in the attached proposal are eligible for Gas Tax – Community Works Fund funding and will provide important infrastructure improvements for Electoral Area residents.

The Gas Tax – Community Works Fund funding requirements associated with the proposed projects are:
- $142,000 for Central Okanagan West.
- $25,000 for Central Okanagan East.

Currently the Gas Tax – Community Works Fund comprises of:
- $425,741 for Central Okanagan West.
- $191,535 for Central Okanagan East.

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT the Regional Board authorizes staff to proceed with project proposal requests identified in the October 16, 2014 Proposal for Community Works Fund-Gas Tax Funding report;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to bring forward the appropriate 2014 budget amendment bylaw.

Respectfully Submitted:

Peter Rotheisler
Manager of Environmental Services

Dept. Head Approval

Chris Radford
Director of Community Services

Approved for Committee Consideration

Brian Reardon, CAO
Implications of Recommendation:

Strategic Plan: Sustainability
Social: Maintain high service level
Environmental: Energy and greenhouse gas reductions
Financial: Grant funding

Background:
The federal Gas Tax Fund provides predictable, long-term funding to help communities across Canada meet their local infrastructure needs. The funding is provided up front, twice a year to provinces and territories, which in turn send this funding to their municipalities. Projects are chosen by local governments according to local priorities. Municipalities can pool, bank and borrow against this funding, providing significant financial flexibility (Federal Government, 2014).

The projects identified in the attached proposal will provide effective use of resources and provide meaningful contributions to the quality of life for Electoral Area communities and residences. All project proposals are applicable to the new (2014) Gas Tax Funding targets of:

- public transit
- wastewater infrastructure
- drinking water
- solid waste management
- community energy systems
- local roads and bridges, highways
- capacity building
- local and regional airports
- short-line rail
- short-sea shipping
- disaster mitigation
- broadband and connectivity
- brownfield redevelopment
- culture
- tourism, sport, recreation

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October 16, 2014

Proposal for

Community Works Fund – Gas Tax Funding
I. Summary

The intent of this application is to fund projects in both Central Okanagan Electoral Area West and Central Okanagan Electoral Area East that are eligible the Gas Tax – Community Works Fund. The proposed projects described within this document will result in reduced greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption and operating and capital costs. The projects are not only intended to lead to more positive environmental outcomes but also contribute to a safe and healthy community.

Project proposals include a floodplain risk assessment and mapping project and water system improvements such as water system improvement plans, leak detection equipment and water treatment equipment.

The Gas Tax – Community Works Fund funding requirements associated with the proposed projects are:

Electoral East - $25,000
Electoral West - $142,000

All of the proposed improvements, equipment purchases and professional assessments are applicable to the Gas Tax Funding targets of:

- public transit
- wastewater infrastructure
- drinking water
- solid waste management
- community energy systems
- local roads and bridges
- capacity building
- highways
- local and regional airports
- short-line rail
- short-sea shipping
- disaster mitigation
- broadband and connectivity
- brownfield redevelopment
- culture
- tourism
- sport
- recreation

Unallocated funds from the Community Works Fund are available for future projects in the Electoral areas. Many of the projects listed above would also be consistent with the RDCO commitment on the Climate Action Plan and BC Hydro and Fortis power smart objectives.
The benefits of this proposal would be realized by both Central Okanagan Electoral Area West and Central Okanagan Electoral Area East.

Electoral Area West:

Planning

- Regional floodplain risk assessment and mapping project. To include natural hazard identification and mitigation in order to better plan for risks and inform decision making on future growth and development. The development of floodplain mapping as well as mapping of dams and upstream reservoirs will reduce potential impacts and costs associated with flood related disasters. This capacity building will strengthen the ability of local governments to address long-term planning practices and asset management.
  - Estimated cost- $15,000

Westshore Water System

- Water system improvement plan. The purpose of this plan is complete the necessary assessment and engineering to meet Interior Health’s 4-3-2-1-0 Drinking Water Objective and to improve system operations include improvements to storage and pressure reduction infrastructure. The improvements that will result from this plan include improved water quality and reduced operational and capital expenses, energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions.
  - Estimated cost- $35,000

- Purchase and installation of Sodium Hypochlorite disinfection system. This system would replace the current Chlorine gas disinfection system and will result in improved water quality and reduced risk to air quality, health and safety of operators and the general public.
  - Estimated cost - $10,000

- Water system leak detection equipment including acoustic leak detector and portable flow meter (split with Killiney Beach Water System). Specialized leak detection equipment is required to identify leaks that are hidden below the surface. This equipment will result in reduced operational costs, energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions.
  - Estimated cost - $6,000
• Reservoir fencing was required at a remote reservoir due to unauthorized access. Fencing will help ensure water quality is not compromised and will prevent costly water quality testing due to unauthorized access.
  
  o Estimated cost - $10,000

• New communication lines were required for critical components of the supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system. These communication lines are the only way of remotely monitoring and controlling water quantity and quality parameters in certain portions of the water system.
  
  o Estimated cost - $10,000

Killiney Beach Water System

• Water system improvement plan. The purpose of this plan is complete the necessary assessment and engineering to meet Interior Health’s 4-3-2-1-0 Drinking Water Objective and to improve system operations include improvements to pressure reducing valves, the upper reservoirs and distribution system. The improvements that will result from this plan include improved water quality and reduced operational and capital expenses, energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions.
  
  o Estimated cost- $50,000

• Purchase and installation of variable-frequency drive (VFD). VFDs provide many operational benefits and significant costs savings due to reduced energy consumption.
  
  o Estimated cost- $13,000

• Purchase and installation of Sodium Hypochlorite disinfection system. This system would replace the current Chlorine gas disinfection system and will result in improved water quality and reduced risk to air quality, health and safety of operators and the general public.
  
  o Estimated cost - $10,000

• Water system leak detection equipment including acoustic leak detector and portable flow meter (split with Westshore Beach Water System). Specialized leak detection equipment is required to identify leaks that are hidden below the surface. This equipment will result in reduced operational costs, energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions.
  
  o Estimated cost - $6,000
Electoral Area East

Planning

- Regional floodplain risk assessment and mapping project. To include natural hazard identification and mitigation in order to better plan for risks and inform decision making on future growth and development. The development of floodplain mapping as well as mapping of dams and upstream reservoirs will reduce potential impacts and costs associated with flood related disasters. This capacity building will strengthen the ability of local governments to address long-term planning practices and asset management.
  
  o Estimated cost- $15,000

Sunset Ranch Water System

- Purchase and installation of variable-frequency drive (VFD). VFDs provide many operational benefits and significant costs savings due to reduced energy consumption.
  
  o Estimated cost- $10,000

III. Goals/Objectives

These projects will provide effective use of resources and provide meaningful contributions to the quality of life for Electoral Area communities and residences. All of the improvements detailed above are applicable to the new (2014) Gas Tax Funding targets of:

- public transit
- wastewater infrastructure
- drinking water
- solid waste management
- community energy systems
- local roads and bridges, highways
- capacity building
- local and regional airports
- short-line rail
- short-sea shipping
- disaster mitigation
- broadband and connectivity
- brownfield redevelopment
- culture
- sport, recreation, tourism
The financial burden on the Regional District of Central Okanagan and its residents will be significantly reduced if Gas Tax funds can be directed to the projects listed above. Unallocated funds from the Community Works Fund are available for future projects in the Electoral areas. Many of the projects listed above would also be consistent with the RDCO commitment on the Climate Action Plan and BC Hydro and Fortis power smart objectives.

IV. Procedures/Scope of Work

The identified projects are expected to move forward after securing of funding through the Gas Tax Fund. The intent would be to engage appropriate engineers and pursue qualified contractors to ensure all projects can be completed in a cost effective and timely manner. Outsourcing will be required for engineering reviews, reports and plans.

**Timetable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Westshore Water System</th>
<th>Description of Work</th>
<th>Start and End Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project 1</td>
<td>Water system improvement plan</td>
<td>Fall 2014 – April 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project 2</td>
<td>Sodium Hypochlorite system</td>
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<td>Project 3</td>
<td>Leak detection equipment</td>
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<td>Project 4</td>
<td>Reservoir fencing</td>
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<td>Project 5</td>
<td>SCADA improvements</td>
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<td>VFD</td>
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<td>Project 4</td>
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<th>Sunset Ranch Water System</th>
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### V. Budget

#### Westshore Water System

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<tr>
<th>Project</th>
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<td>Water system improvement plan</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Sodium Hypochlorite system</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Reservoir fencing</td>
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<td>SCADA improvements</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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#### Planning

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VI. Key Personnel

![Diagram showing key personnel structure]

VII. Evaluation

Projects will continually be monitored by RDCO and sent for review to Health Officials and engineers, where applicable. Target dates would be set at the onset of any project and be consistent with budget year. Progress tracked though quarterly reporting.

VIII. Next Steps

Approve funding through the Gas Tax- Community Works Fund on completed projects identified in 2014 and agree to have proposed improvements for 2015 included in future work plans.