



Agenda No: 8.2

Mtg. Date: July 27, 2015

Regional Board Report

TO: Regional Board
FROM: Community Services
DATE: July 20, 2015
SUBJECT: Community Works Funding- Central Okanagan East

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

The Gas Tax – Community Works Fund additional funding requirements associated with the Joe Rich water improvement project is:

- \$ 152,000 for Central Okanagan East.

Currently the Gas Tax – Community Works Fund comprises of:

- \$171,534 for Central Okanagan East, with an additional \$165,352 to be received in 2015.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Regional Board authorizes \$ 152,000 be approved for water quality and capacity system improvements in Central Okanagan East.

Respectfully Submitted:


Chris Radford
Director of Community Services

Approved for Board's Consideration


Brian Reardon, CAO

Implications of Recommendation:

Strategic Plan:	Sustainability
Social:	Improvement of service level and water quality
Environmental:	Energy and greenhouse gas reductions
Financial:	Utilization of Community Works 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.

The projects identified will provide effective use of resources and provide meaningful contributions to the quality of life for Electoral Area communities and residences. The projects proposed 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, highways
- capacity building
- local and regional airports
- short-line rail
- short-sea shipping
- disaster mitigation
- broadband and connectivity
- brownfield redevelopment
- culture
- tourism, sport, recreation

In 2013 staff received Board approval to utilize Community Works Funds for water storage improvements within the Joe Rich Fire Service Area. Subsequent to the 2013 Board report staff met and received direction from Interior Health to implement improvements to the Joe Rich Community/Fire Hall water system and Goudie Road Fire Hall water system. These required water quality improvements along with assurance of stabilization of the placement of additional storage (retaining wall structure) at the Joe Rich Hall and placement of the hydrant in the MoTI road way have exceeded original projected cost estimates.

The original project included additional storage and associated works for the Fire Halls at a proposed cost of \$315,000. With the addition of the required water quality improvements and

civil works, the projects budget estimate is now \$467,000. This includes engineering, inspection, survey work, establishment of Statutory Right of Way, associated permits and construction of project works including a contingency.

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

- \$152,000 for Central Okanagan East.

Currently the Gas Tax – Community Works Fund comprises of:

- 171,534 for Central Okanagan East, with an additional \$165,352 to be received in 2015.

It should be noted that the 2013 proposal included projects in Central Okanagan East for a potable community bulk water fill system located at the Joe Rich Hall and a fire pump testing facility at the Goudie Hall. Staff contacted residents in the area to determine interest in the water fill station, but concluded there would not be sufficient interest to warrant one at this time. As well, due to increased costs associated with required system upgrades, staff would not be pursuing the pump test facility and have secured a suitable, cost effective pump testing option for all four Regional Fire Departments.

Staff is optimistic that the project can be completed in 2015, although when originally advertised for tender (at a reduced scope) no bids were received. The additional funding to increase the scope to the full project along with inclusion of civil works required for the Parks improvements at Goudie Hall at a value just over \$50,000 will likely attract more contractor interest.

These water system improvements to water quality and provision of reservoir storage are essential to ensuring the water system meets public health requirements and will significantly improve the local fire service's ability to meet public safety requirements.