

Report to Council



Date: February 19th, 2018
File: 1890-15
To: City Manager
From: Ed Hoppe, Water Quality and Customer Care Supervisor
Ted Sophonow, Parks, Beaches & Sportsfields Supervisor
Subject: Okanagan Basin Water Board Grant Application

Recommendation:

That Council receives, for information, the report from the Water Quality and Customer Care Supervisor and the Parks, Beaches & Sportsfields Supervisor with respect to two 2018-2019 Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) Water Quality and Conservation Grants,

AND THAT Council authorizes staff to apply for a 2018-2019 OBWB – Water Conservation and Quality Project Grant for 'Source Water Protection Plan' and also for 'Irrigation Communication Retro-fit Project',

AND THAT Council authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the 2018-2019 OBWB – Water Conservation and Quality Project Grants on behalf of City Council, if the application(s) is successful,

AND FURTHER THAT the 2018 Financial Plan be amended to include the grant funding for the "Source Water Protection Plan" and "Irrigation Communication Retro-fit Project" if the application(s) is successful.

Purpose:

To consider staff's recommendation to apply for two 2018-2019 OBWB Water Protection, Conservation and Supply Grants.

Background:

The purpose of the Okanagan Basin Water Board's Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grant Initiative is to assist local government in addressing issues that enhance the valley-wide sustainable use of water. This year the board is putting a special focus on projects which address: Drought and Flood Preparedness, Mapping, Source Water Protection, and Water Quality.

As part of the application process, all applications must be accompanied by a Board or Council resolution from the respective Regional District Board and/or Municipal Council. This includes applications from local governments and all non-profit/community groups or improvement districts. Staff are proposing the following applications to the Okanagan Basin Water Board be submitted for the February 16th, 2018 deadline with the understanding that Council support will be accepted by the Okanagan Basin Water Board post-date;

'Source Water Protection Plan'

In 2011, Kelowna contracted a consultant to develop an Interior Health Authority (IHA) mandated Source Water Protection Assessment, which highlighted a number of risks and deficiencies in the current protection of water quality and supply in the Okanagan Watershed. The resulting recommendations from the assessment were to be evaluated and developed into a formal action plan referred to as a Source Water Protection Plan.

Once developed, the Source Water Protection Plan would serve as a blueprint for the protection of source and subsequent drinking water for residents of the Kelowna Water Utility. Actions from the plan would effectively minimize the water quality impacts of agricultural practices, range practices, encroaching development, environmental spills, forestry practices, discharge of wastewater effluent, and other emerging water quality threats by working with various stakeholders.

This long range plan is designed to be an on-going and "living" document that, once developed, will be maintained, revised and updated by staff. It will be utilized by both Utility Operations for maintaining the annual IHA filtration deferral exemption and by the Utility Planning department for consideration of infrastructure needs and addressing water protection concerns in future plans.

'Irrigation Communication Retro-Fit Project'

The City of Kelowna has approximately 350 irrigation points of connection with a variety of methods to control the flow of water. In 2017 the City of Kelowna, Park Services received a \$30,000 grant from the Okanagan Basin Water Board to investigate solutions to flow monitoring issues at City irrigated sites. Through this grant, the City will increase the number of sites with dependable, accurate flow monitoring.

Flow monitoring mitigates property damage and liabilities by means of early detection of excess or unexpected flow and raises water conservation awareness through historical usage reports and live use data. During our investigation, approximately 10 sites were tested and groundbreaking results for Park Services and the irrigation industry were made with products that are compatible in flow monitoring.

Internal Circulation:

Divisional Director, Infrastructure Planning

Divisional Director, Civic Operations

Parks and Buildings Planning Manager

Park Services Manager

Utility Services Manager

Infrastructure Delivery Manager

Grants and Partnerships Manager

Community Communications Manager
Budget Supervisor

Existing Policy:

OCP Policy 7.17.2 Water Conservation: Conserve water by improving the efficiency of existing irrigation systems, improving park construction standards, designing for water conservation, using non-potable water and converting park and civic building landscapes to reduce the amount of irrigated turf where appropriate.

OCP Policy 7.21.1 Best Practices: Minimize water consumption by following best practices for water conservation including metering, public education and equitable rate structures, toward increased resilience to drought.

OCP Policy 7.23.1 Run-off Volumes: Manage runoff volumes generated by urban development to minimize changes in water flow and impacts to watershed health.

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

The Civic Operations Division is requesting a \$30,000 OBWB grant for the development of the Source Water Protection Plan. A budget of \$28,000 has already been approved for 2018, which will form all of the funding for the project in the event that grant funding is not approved through OBWB.

The Civic Operations Division is also requesting a \$30,000 OBWB grant towards the Irrigation Communication Retro-Fit Project. The amount of funding received will determine the extent of the project that can be carried and may be supplemented by up to \$10,000 from the Parks department 2018 budget.

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Personnel Implications:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Communications Comments:

Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:

Ed Hoppe, Water Quality and Customer Care Supervisor

Approved for inclusion:



(Joe Creron, Deputy City Manager)

cc:

Divisional Director, Infrastructure Planning

Divisional Director, Civic Operations

Parks and Buildings Planning Manager

Park Services Manager

Utility Services Manager

Infrastructure Delivery Manager
Grants and Partnerships Manager
Community Communications Manager
Financial Planning Manager
Parks, Beaches & Sportsfields Supervisor