

Report to Council



Date: 12/3/2018
File: 1840-01
To: City Manager
From: Parks & Buildings Planning Manager
Subject: Recommendation for Investing in Canada Infrastructure grant application

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives the report from the Parks & Buildings Planning Manager dated December 3, 2018, with respect to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – BC – Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure;

AND THAT Council directs staff to make grant application for City Park under this program.

Purpose:

To provide Council with background information on a grant funding opportunity, and a recommendation to proceed with an application for City Park.

Background:

On September 12, 2018 the governments of Canada and British Columbia committed up to \$134M towards the initial intake of the Community, Culture, and Recreation Program (CCR Program). The CCR Program will support infrastructure projects that improve citizen access to and quality of cultural, recreational and community spaces. Municipalities, Regional Districts, Indigenous and Non-profit groups are all eligible to apply, but each may submit only one application per intake.

For a municipality the Government of Canada contribution is up to 40 per cent, and the Province of British Columbia contribution is up to 33.33 per cent. Therefore, the municipality would be responsible to fund 26.67 per cent. The applicant must demonstrate that their share of funding has been, or is being secured, and that a plan is in place to cover any cost overruns beyond budgeted contingencies. Further, the application must demonstrate that funds have been committed to operate, maintain and plan for replacement.

There is no cap on the maximum allowable funding amount per project; however, consideration will be given to a fair distribution of the funding across the Province. Applicants should submit the project that

will give them the best value for the given cost. Applications must be submitted by January 23, 2019. Full details of the program can be found at:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/funding-engagement-permits/funding-grants/investing-in-canada-infrastructure-program/community-culture-recreation>

Staff compared many projects across the City's parks and buildings portfolios for compatibility with the CCR Program objectives, City priorities, and available matching funding. Three projects in particular were considered in more detail: Glenmore Recreation Park, Mission Recreation Park and City Park. After evaluation by staff City Park ranked highest for a combination of close correlation with CCR Program goals and City priorities.

City Park

City Park is one of our primary waterfront parks in downtown Kelowna. It is visited by thousands of tourists every summer, and popular with residents throughout the year. However, the main promenade is damaged due to upheaval from tree roots, the street furniture is in poor condition, the playground equipment is dated and unappealing, and the waterfront where the Aquatic Centre once stood is rapidly degrading. Furthermore, the sea wall, foreshore and children's spray park were all badly damaged during the flooding of 2017 and 2018. The overall impression of this park is underwhelming for one of our most prominent locations.

Most park visitors are currently attracted to the waterfront perimeter of the park. The inner heart of the park is under used, and is challenged with social issues and illegal/illicit activity.

The grant application will seek to reinvigorate the park, both the waterfront and the inner heart, to make it an appealing and attractive destination for residents throughout the year, and to demonstrate Kelowna at its best for our visitors.

Subject to prioritization for costs and return on value, the grant application will include (refer to Attachment 1):

- Restoration of the promenade from the Hot Sands Beach washroom through to the 'Spirit of Sail' sculpture,
- Essential repairs to the seawall along Cold Sands Beach, and shoreline restoration,
- Creation of a new boardwalk along Cold Sands waterfront,
- Partnering with WFN regarding the installation of public art within the waterfront area,
- Creation of a large and appealing children's playground, as a destination playground serving all Kelowna kids,
- Reduction of public vehicular access, and construction of a pedestrian loop trail through the park.

Prior to the submission of the application, other components may be added to the scope as the costs are assessed in more detail, prior to submission of the application. A grant application for \$9M is proposed, of which the City would be responsible for \$2.43M.

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Applicants are required to demonstrate that their share of funding has been, or is being secured, and that a plan is in place to cover any cost overruns beyond budgeted contingencies. If staff are directed to proceed with the grant application, a late Capital request will be submitted for Council consideration, in the 2019 Provisional Budget, on December 13, 2018. The Capital request will be drafted to not create any additional burden on taxation at a late stage.

External Agency/Public Comments:

Staff will be meeting with Westbank First Nations Public Art Committee on 30 Nov 2018, and can report back to Council following this meeting.

Internal Circulation:

Divisional Director, Infrastructure
Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture
Financial Planning Manager
Infrastructure Engineering Manager
Sports & Event Services Manager
Grants & Special Projects Manager
Partnership Manager
Parks Services Manager
Sponsorship & Advertising Manager
Community Engagement Manager
Senior Project Manager (GRP)

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:
Legal/Statutory Authority:
Personnel Implications:
Alternate Recommendation:
Existing Policy:
Communications Comments:

Submitted by:

Robert Parlane, Architect AIBC, Parks & Buildings Planning Manager

Approved for inclusion:



Alan Newcombe, Infrastructure Divisional Director

Attachment 1: City Park Diagram

cc: Divisional Director, Financial Services
Divisional Director, Civic Operations
Divisional Director, Communications & Information
Cultural Services Manager