

Report to Council



Date: October 7, 2019
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: Proposed Amendments to the RDCO Preparation for Emergencies Bylaw No. 489, 1991
Department: Kelowna Fire Department

Recommendation:

THAT the City of Kelowna hereby consents to the Regional District adopting the Regional District of Central Okanagan Emergency Preparedness Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw No. 1443, 2019; and,

WHEREAS Council wishes to establish an emergency management organization, as required by the *Emergency Program Act* and to provide a framework for the municipality to develop its own operational emergency response protocols, Council hereby resolves that:

1. Pursuant to the *Emergency Program Act* (British Columbia), the emergency management organization established by under Regional District of Central Okanagan Emergency Management Program Bylaw No. 1444, 2019 is hereby established as the emergency management organization for the whole of the municipality; and,
2. All of Council's duties and powers under the *Emergency Program Act* (British Columbia) are hereby delegated to that emergency management organization, except for the power to make a declaration of a state of local emergency under that Act.

Purpose:

To update the bylaws supporting the Regional Emergency Program to be consistent both with current legislation as well as current operational practices.

Background:

The Regional Emergency Program operates as a regional service under the Regional District of Central Okanagan. It is operationally administered by the City of Kelowna through the Kelowna Fire Department.

The regional program is well regarded as one of the most effective, robust programs in the province. This was clearly demonstrated during the regional floods of 2017, where the regional system allowed a collaborative approach to support multiple jurisdictions with shared resources and staff.

The proposed bylaw amendments have been recommended to align the bylaw with current legislation and to recognise the current operational model.

This bylaw was considered by the Regional Board on July 19, 2019 and was subsequently circulated to municipalities for consideration and consent.

The recommendation from staff is consistent with motions presented to all local municipal Councils within the region. Attached is the background information as provided by the Regional District, including background information on the changes, and the proposed Regional Bylaw.

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Support for the amendments will continue the Emergency Program as a regionally funded service.

Internal Circulation:

Stephen Fleming, City Clerk

Stu Leatherdale, Divisional Director Human Resources and Public Safety

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Communications Comments:

Submitted by:

T. Whiting
Fire Chief, Kelowna Fire Department

Approved for inclusion:



S. Leatherdale, Divisional Director, Human Resources

Attachments:

Administrators – 2019 Emergency Management Program Amendments.pdf