

# **Appendix 1.8 Affordable Housing MRDT Plan**

The following table **must** be completed if the designated recipient wishes to use MRDT revenues on affordable housing initiatives, regardless of whether revenues are solely from online accommodation platforms or from general MRDT revenues.

#### **Project Name and Address**

• Online Accommodation Platform (OAP) Reserve Fund

#### **Project Goals, Rationale and Details**

- Goal: acquire land in strategic locations and provide grants to be used in support of affordable housing projects in partnership with BC Housing and non-profit housing providers.
- How does this project respond to affordable housing needs in your community?
  Under this plan, OAP revenues for the coming year would be directed towards the Online Accommodation Platform (OAP) Reserve Fund to support affordable housing in Kelowna.

Land is often the greatest obstacle that affordable housing providers have to overcome. In Kelowna, suitable land for affordable housing projects is scarce and expensive. Often, sites require land assembly, a process which takes time and is not a viable option for many non-profits. The City is well suited to strategic land acquisition and to land assemblies. Using OAP revenues to support land acquisition for affordable housing will help to ensure that the community is well positioned to act on opportunities for new affordable housing projects.

This is supported through the Healthy Housing Strategy, endorsed by Council in 2017.

- What is the need, issue, or demand?
  - The lack of readily available land is slowing down the delivery of affordable housing projects in Kelowna. Of the many challenges faced by affordable housing providers and BC Housing, land may be the greatest, particularly in Kelowna. Suitable land in Kelowna is scarce and expensive and often takes time and effort to assemble.
- What kind of project are you spending on (such as acquiring or constructing buildings, providing funding to an existing housing project or towards a rental or social housing program, or entering into a partnership agreement)?
  - Through the Online Accommodation Platform (OAP) Reserve Fund, acquiring land to be used in partnership with BC Housing and non-profit housing providers to support the delivery of affordable housing units in Kelowna are examples of typical uses for the funding.
- What documentation do you have authorizing the project to proceed (such as a contribution agreement or contract, or permits or schematics)? Submit the documents with your report.
  - On July 13, 2020, Staff took a report forward to Council regarding tourism recovery support, including a recommendation for a one-time arrangement to share 2021 OAP revenues with Tourism Kelowna. This recommendation was defeated and Council indicated its preference to have 100% of OAP revenues continue to be directed to addressing affordable housing.

See the Report to Council, dated July 13, 2020, shown as Item 5.7, including the Minutes.



How will you measure success on the housing project?

A successful outcome would be the ability to partner with BC Housing and non-profit housing providers to deliver affordable housing every 2-4 years.

#### **MRDT Contribution**

• 100% of OAP revenues only

### **Housing Provider/Project Owners/Project Lead**

 TBD. Site acquisition will be done in conjunction with BC Housing. BC Housing will determine the longterm project owner/operator on the basis of their funding priorities at the time. If grants are required, an application process will be used to identify suitable candidates.

### Funding Partner(s)

BC Housing

### **Contribution from Funding Partner(s)**

• BC Housing will work with a non-profit housing provider to construct and to operate the affordable housing units on City-owned land.

# **Estimated Completion Date**

It is estimated that a suitable site could be acquired every 2-4 years.

### **Estimated Number of Housing Units Completed**

• TBD. As the sites are acquired, the City will work with BC Housing to identify appropriate opportunities.

# **Evidence of Consultation with Local Governments for Affordable Housing (if applicable)**

N/a