

Report to Council



Date: October 28, 2024
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: 2024-2025 BC Active Transportation Grant Application
Department: Integrated Transportation

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives for information the Report from Integrated Transportation dated October 28, 2024 with respect to the 2024-2025 BC Active Transportation Grant;

AND THAT Council authorizes staff to apply for two Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants for the Rutland Neighbourhood Bikeway (Phase 1) and the KLO Bridge Replacement, as outlined in this Report;

AND THAT the City of Kelowna confirms these projects are municipal priorities, planned for construction in 2025 and intended to be complete within the required timeline for the grant;

AND THAT Council supports staff to manage all tasks necessary to complete the grant;

AND THAT Council authorizes staff to execute all documents if the application is successful;

AND FURTHER THAT the City of Kelowna will be responsible for its share of eligible costs, ineligible costs, and potential overruns related to the project and that staff amend the Financial Plan as necessary if these grant applications are successful.

Purpose:

To authorize staff to apply for a BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant for the Rutland Neighbourhood Bikeway (Phase 1) and KLO Bridge Replacement.

Council Priority Alignment:

Transportation

Background:

The Province of British Columbia's Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program supports active transportation networks that are safe, accessible, and convenient for all ages and abilities. Local governments are allowed to submit applications for two projects annually, covering up to 50 per cent of eligible costs to a maximum of \$500,000 per project. The City has received \$7.7 million in financial support through this program since 2014.

Discussion:

The two projects selected for the grant application include Rutland Neighbourhood Bikeway and the KLO Bridge Replacement as these projects both have strong active transportation components.

Rutland Neighbourhood Bikeway

The Rutland Neighbourhood Bikeway will provide a safe and convenient connection between the Rutland Urban Centre, Rutland Recreation Park, and the nearby schools.

Neighbourhood bikeways are routes on quieter local streets where people biking and driving can safely share the road. While they are new for Kelowna, they have been used in many other Canadian cities and can be a cost-effective way to extend the bike network.

Starting from the east end of the recently completed Houghton Active Transportation Corridor, construction in 2025 will add a new bike route along Mugford Rd, Laurel Rd, and Dodd Rd to the Rutland Rec Park. A second phase will continue north along Solly Ct, Fizet Ave, Friesen Rd, and Klassen Rd to Edith Gay Park in 2026.

KLO Bridge Replacement

The KLO Bridge Replacement is an important renewal project for climate change adaptation. The new bridge will include multi-use pathways and remove the at-grade KLO road crossing for the Mission Creek Greenway. Improved sidewalk connections to the Hall Rd and Leader Rd neighbourhoods are also included. Construction is planned to begin in Spring 2025 and be completed in 2026.

Conclusion:

These projects will help achieve Council's priority of more trips by alternative transportation modes. If these applications are successful, the City will use the funding to substitute for existing project funding, address potential scope changes, and explore opportunities to accelerate additional infrastructure for walking and biking identified in the 10-Year Capital Plan.

Internal Circulation:

Community Engagement
Controller

Financial Planning
Infrastructure Finance and Administration
Partnerships Office

Considerations applicable to this report:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Funding of \$2 million for the Rutland Neighbourhood Bikeway is included in the *10-Year Capital Plan 2025-2034*, adopted by Council in September 2024. A budget request for \$1 million will be included in the 2025 Preliminary Budget for Council's consideration in December.

Funding of \$18.4 million for the KLO Bridge Replacement is included in the *10-Year Capital Plan 2025-2034*, adopted by Council in September 2024. A budget request for \$16.6 million for construction activities in 2025 will be included in the 2025 Preliminary Budget for Council's consideration in December.

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

Communications Comments:

Consultation and Engagement:

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Approved for inclusion: M. Logan, GM, Infrastructure

cc:

Communications Director, Corporate Strategic Services
General Manager, Corporate Services
Divisional Director, Partnerships & Investments