

Report to Council



Date: April 7, 2025
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: Next Generation 911 Grant Application
Department: Partnerships Office

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Partnerships Office dated April 7, 2025 with respect to the Next Generation 911 Grant;

AND THAT Council directs staff to apply for grant funding to the Next Generation 911 Grant program, administered through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities;

AND THAT Council authorizes staff to execute all documents necessary to complete and manage the Grant.

Purpose:

To approve a grant application to the Next Generation 911 funding program.

Council Priority Alignment:

Crime & Safety

Background:

The Next Generation 911 funding program is a \$60M investment from the Province of British Columbia that supports compliance with the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) federal mandate.

Next Generation 911 refers to the modernization of 911 networks and infrastructure across Canada. It is a federally-mandated transition of the emergency communications network from the current network to an Internet Protocol based technology. Next Generation 911 will enable important improvements to public safety, including better 911 caller location information, real time texting, streaming audio and video.

Previous Council Resolution

Next Generation 911 Funding

Resolution	Date
<p>That Council receives, for information, the financial funds for transitioning Kelowna Fire Dispatch to Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) with respect to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) letter date August 4, 2023.</p> <p>AND THAT the 2023 Financial Plan be amended to include grant funding of \$3,045,000 received from the Union of BC Municipalities to be used towards the NG 9-1-1 transition project.</p>	December 4, 2023

Discussion:

The City is applying to this program to support Next Generation 911 transition, a critical project that will ensure that Kelowna Fire Dispatch can provide efficient and effective emergency services to the public using more modern technology.

This next round of funding will help supplement existing funding to support replacing traditional 911 systems by integrating digital technologies, allowing for the transmission of multimedia data such as text messages, images, video, and real-time location information to emergency responders. This system aims to improve response times, enhance communication capabilities, and provide better service to our community.

Conclusion:

The City actively pursues grants to reduce municipal taxation and to leverage City funding for infrastructure, services, and programs to support Council, corporate and community priorities.

Funding from the Next Generation 911 fund will support initiatives to enable important improvements to public safety and modernize 911 networks and critical infrastructure for the City of Kelowna.

Internal Circulation:

Fire Department
Financial Services

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Consultation and Engagement:

Communications Comments:

Submitted by: K. March, Grants & Special Projects Manager

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cc:

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