

Report to Council



Date: 2017-10-30
File: 0710-60
To: City Manager
From: Rafael Villarreal, Manager, Integrated Transportation
Subject: National Trade Corridor Fund Grant Application for Okanagan Gateway Transportation Plan

Report Prepared by: Ed Stephens, Senior Airport Development Manager

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Manager, Integrated Transportation, dated October 30, 2017, with respect to the National Trade Corridor Fund Grant Application for the Okanagan Gateway Transportation Plan;

AND THAT Council endorses the grant application to the National Trade Corridor Fund for the Okanagan Gateway Transportation Plan grant application to the National Trade Corridor Fund for the Okanagan Gateway Transportation Plan;

AND THAT Council approve the amendment to the 2017 Financial Plan including the \$512,500 project with funding as detailed in the Financial/Budgetary Considerations portion of this report.

Purpose:

To receive Council's approval for the City of Kelowna's portion of the funding for the Okanagan Gateway Transportation Plan in order to submit a grant application to the 2017 National Trade Corridor Fund program.

Background:

The National Trade Corridor Fund (NTCF) is administered by Transport Canada, as part of the Investing in Canada Plan. This fund is for \$2 billion over 11 years, with \$400 million being available over the next 3 years. The focus of the NTCF is on:

- Investments in transportation assets that support economic activity and the movement of goods and people
- Addressing transportation bottlenecks, vulnerabilities and congestion
- Funding allocated to projects based on merit, with a focus on trade corridor efficiency and reliability

The objectives of the NTCF are:

- support the fluidity of Canadian trade by alleviating capacity constraints and bottlenecks, and strengthen modal interconnectivity and operability;
- increase the resilience of the Canadian transportation system to a changing climate and its adaptability to new technologies and future innovation;
- address the transportation needs of Northern communities, including safety and economic development; and
- leverage investments from multiple partners.

The NTCF submission process includes two application phases: Expression of Interest and Comprehensive Project Proposal. The City of Kelowna (City), including Kelowna International Airport (YLW), in collaboration with the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI) and the University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO) have received acceptance of our Expression of Interest submission and are invited to submit a Proposal by November 6, 2017.

Overview:

The Okanagan Gateway is home to the Kelowna International Airport (YLW) and the University of British Columbia Okanagan Campus (UBCO); both facilities of regional and provincial significance. The region's primary north-south mobility corridor, for both people and trade, is British Columbia Provincial Highway 97. Hwy 97 extends from the US border, along the length of the Okanagan Valley to the Shuswap where it inter-connects with the Trans-Canada Highway before continuing as the province's primary north-south corridor to Northern British Columbia. YLW and its connection to Highway 97 form the primary air gateway to the Southern Interior for visitors and residents and are part of the National Airport System (YLW) and National Highway System (Highway 97, Airport Way).

Both UBCO and YLW have also experienced significant growth over the last decade; with passenger volumes through YLW growing by 25% over the last 5 years and UBCO expanding from just under 5,000 students in 2005 to just over 9,000 students in 2017. Aviation supporting services and other industrial and commercial development adjacent to the airport and university are also growing - forming a major center of high-value/skilled employment within the region.

Reflecting the collective regional and national benefits of a strong transportation network in the area, the proposed Okanagan Gateway Transportation Study (OGTS), is proposed as a funding partnership between the City of Kelowna, Kelowna International Airport, the British Columbia Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and the University of British Columbia Okanagan, with support by neighboring municipalities members of the Sustainable Transportation Partnership of the Central Okanagan.

Supporting the future growth of YLW, UBCO and surrounding lands will require improvements to the transportation network. While a range of potential network improvements have been previously identified within the context of individual initiatives, no comprehensive system focused transportation plan has been completed. The plan will consider the collective impacts of land use and transportation changes at a system level, promote a shift towards active and sustainable travel modes and be resilient to a changing climate and transport technology landscape.

The OGTS's primary objective will be to identify a future multi-modal transportation network for the Okanagan Gateway area. Improvement options will be assessed using a multiple account

decision framework and business case/net present value analysis to maximize net benefits - similar to other recent provincial projects. Project footprints will be developed to ensure required lands are protected while improvement costing will ensure financial viability. Ultimately the OGTS will seek to identify a future transportation network that supports the long-term success of YLW / UBCO and the future performance of Highway 97, while facilitating a shift towards transit, active and other sustainable travel modes.

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

The NTCF Comprehensive Project Proposal due November 6, 2017 requires that applicant's funding contribution is secured with letters of commitment from named funding partners.

The breakdown of commitments on our Proposal will be:

Project Costs

Total Project Cost	\$512,500
Total Federal Funding Amount Requested Under NTCF	\$250,000
Matching funds from partners	\$262,500
Project Contributions by Applicant	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Kelowna Reserves <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transportation \$25,000 ○ YLW \$100,000 	\$125,000
• BC Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure	\$112,500
• University of British Columbia	\$25,000

Internal Circulation:

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- Controller, Finance
- Financial Planning Manager, Finance
- Manager, Grants & Partnerships
- Manager, Infrastructure Engineering
- Senior Airport Finance and Corporate Services Manager, Kelowna International Airport
- Transportation Engineering Manager

Considerations not applicable to this report:

- Legal/Statutory Authority:
- Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:
- Existing Policy:
- Financial/Budgetary Considerations:
- Personnel Implications:
- External Agency/Public Comments:
- Communications Comments:

Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:

R. Villarreal, Manager, Integrated Transportation

Approved for inclusion:



A. Newcombe, Director, Infrastructure

Appendix A - Okanagan Gateway Transportation Study map

cc: Divisional Director, Infrastructure
Divisional Director, Finance
Airport Director, Kelowna International Airport
Communication Consultant, Communications & Information Services
Controller, Finance
Financial Planning Manager, Finance
Manager, Grants & Partnerships
Manager, Infrastructure Engineering
Senior Airport Finance and Corporate Services Manager, Kelowna International Airport
Transportation Engineering Manager
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
University of British Columbia Okanagan Campus

APPENDIX A – Okanagan Gateway Transportation Study Map

