



WHISTLER

REPORT | ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENTED: March 16, 2021
FROM: Infrastructure Services
SUBJECT: GRANT APPLICATION FOR UBCM COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
FUND – FLOOD MITIGATION PLANNING

REPORT: 21-023
FILE: 509

COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

That the recommendation of the General Manager of Infrastructure Services be endorsed.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the Flood Mitigation Planning Grant Application, and if successful, direct staff to provide overall management of the grant as per the Union of British Columbia Municipalities' grant requirements as attached as Appendix "A" to Administration Report to Council No. 21-022.

REFERENCES

Appendix "A" – UBCM CEPF Flood Risk Assessment, Mapping & Mitigation Planning
2021 Program & Application Guide.

Appendix "B" – Alta Creek Flood Inundation Map

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this Report is to ask Council to endorse a grant application for Flood Mitigation Planning to the UBCM-CEPF program. Council support of the funding request is a required part of the grant application.

DISCUSSION

Background

The government of British Columbia is investing in projects that enhance the ability of local governments and their residents to respond to environmental emergencies. Under the UBCM's "Flood Mitigation Planning" stream, the RMOW can apply for funding to investigate feasible flood mitigation options that will be considered for construction at a later date.

Several past technical studies conducted by the municipality dating from 2015 to 2020 indicate Alta Creek (River of Golden Dreams) to be a high-risk watercourse with the potential to flood the adjacent properties and public infrastructure, and recommended a review of flood mitigation options and planning.

Based on recently completed Alta Creek flood risk assessment and mapping, flood and erosion damage resulting from an Alta Creek flood should be further examined. The municipality is proposing to

undertake a flood mitigation options assessment to determine the most feasible mitigation option and to develop a flood strategy to manage the flood risk effectively. Appendix B provides Alta Creek flood inundation map information based on the existing flood risk information for Alta Creek.

Project Proposal

The proposed project has costs associated with the following tasks to be completed by a team of qualified professionals: Data Review, Surveying, Hydraulic Modelling, Flood Mitigation Options Development, Geotechnical Review, Environmental Assessment, Stakeholder Consultations, Cost-Benefit Analysis, Reporting, Project Management and Contingencies.

The terms of the proposal meet the province's requirement to future-proof project results by including the impacts of climate change into any of the proposed mitigation options and analytical results.

The potential for flooding in this area is well documented however the benefits of potential mitigation options has not been explored or quantified. This funding would provide the means for the municipality to complete that investigation and inform the public of the flood hazards and potential mitigation measures.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

This grant application aligns with the following goals and policies of Whistler's OCP:

Growth Management

- 4.1.5.5 Policy - Ensure all development is protected from flood hazards to the standards accepted by the Province and qualified professionals.

Natural Environment

- 7.2.2.6 Policy – Identify and protect natural areas to mitigate flooding using revised municipal flood hazard and risk mapping that incorporates the CECAP climate change modelling.

Infrastructure

- Goal – Whistler's drainage systems meet all applicable standards and replicate natural systems, as much as possible. Whistler's drainage systems ensure the safety and protection of people, property and infrastructure from floods, and are maintained in a cost-effective, reliable manner that minimizes or eliminates environmental impacts.
- 12.5.1.1. Policy - Ensure all development is protected from flood hazards to the standards accepted by the Province and the consulting engineering community.
- 12.5.1.2. Policy - Collaborate with federal and provincial organizations on evolving standards (including climate change) for the operation, maintenance, renewal and restoration of flood-protection infrastructure.
- 12.5.1.5. Policy - Identify and protect natural areas that mitigate flooding based on revised municipal flood hazard and risk mapping that incorporates the Community Energy and Climate Action Plan climate change modelling.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

The UBCM CEPF program will provide up to 100% of the project funding. This funding application is for \$147,400 with an additional \$3,000 provided through in-kind donation of municipal staff time. The RMOW is applying for funds to cover the estimated cost of developing the mitigation options.

SUMMARY

The RMOW has an opportunity to receive \$147,400 in grant funding from UBCM CEPF sources to complete a flood mitigation assessment along Alta Creek (River of Golden Dreams). Staff request that Council support the submission of this grant application to UBCM CEPF.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDREW TUCKER
MANAGER OF TRANSPORTATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

for

JAMES HALLISEY
GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES