



WHISTLER

REPORT | ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENTED: June 15, 2021 **REPORT:** 21-068
FROM: Resort Experience **FILE:** 5290
SUBJECT: EMOTIVE GRANT APPLICATION 2021 WHISTLER E-MOBILITY STRATEGY

COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

That the recommendation of the General Manager of Resort Experience be endorsed.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council supports that staff submits an application to the Emotive Clean Transportation Targets and Planning Pilot Funding program to develop the 2021 Whistler e-mobility strategy.

REFERENCES

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this Report is to have Council endorse a grant application for the Emotive Clean Transportation Targets and Planning Pilot program funded by the Province of BC and administered by PlugIn BC to develop an E-mobility strategy for Whistler.

DISCUSSION

On December 15, 2020, Council adopted Whistler's 2020 Climate Action Big Moves Strategy and new GHG emission reduction target of reducing Whistler's greenhouse gas emissions by 50 per cent below 2007 levels. Personal vehicle transport is Whistler's largest source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, accounting for 54 per cent of Whistler's community wide emissions in 2019, and is the main challenge to achieving our climate targets. Moving towards low carbon transportation is a key opportunity to reduce Whistler's emissions. The Climate Action Big Moves strategy highlights this opportunity through the goals for Big Move 1 and 2 of 50 per cent of trips done by active transport or public transit and 50 per cent of vehicle kilometers (vkms) driven by zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) by 2030.

Whistler's approach to personal transport as stated in the Official Community Plan is to prioritize walking, cycling, transit and other preferred modes over the single occupant vehicle and private automobile (OCP goal 11.4). However, private vehicles will continue to be an integral part of Whistler's transportation network for the foreseeable future. A strategic and coordinated approach is necessary to decarbonize and electrify these remaining passenger vehicles in the context of prioritizing active modes of transportation and transit.

The government of British Columbia is investing in helping communities to develop clean transportation targets, plans, and policies that will be incorporated into public facing strategic documents through the new Emotive Clean Transportation Targets and Planning (CTTP) Pilot Funding program. The CTTP

funding is for up to \$20,000. For funding requests of \$10,000 or above, applicants must demonstrate that at least 50 per cent cost share funding is in place which may include in-kind staff time. The funding is administered by PlugIn BC and aims to support local and Indigenous government policy development and implementation to encourage the transition to low emissions transport (such as electric vehicles and e-mobility vehicles), as well as other forms of transport such as walking, cycling, and public transit.

The RMOW is seeking funding through the Emotive CTP program to develop an electric mobility (e-mobility) strategy for Whistler. E-mobility includes electric vehicles (EVs), E-bikes, and other personal electric mobility devices. The goal of this strategy is to identify actions that the RMOW can take towards achieving the Big Move 2 goal that 50 per cent of vkms are driven by ZEVs by 2030 with the long-term vision of decarbonizing passenger transportation in Whistler.

The final e-mobility strategy will be based on best practice research, internal and external stakeholder engagement, as well as public and focus groups consultation. The actions identified in this strategy aim to accelerate EV and E-bike adoption for residents, the commuter workforce, and businesses and are organized into the following 5 areas of focus:

1. Home and workplace charging of EV's, e-bikes and other e-mobility devices
 - a. In existing homes
 - b. In new construction
2. Public charging infrastructure
3. Accelerating individual EV adoption through education and outreach
4. Accessibility and Equity
5. Demonstrate RMOW leadership in the use of EVs and E-bikes in its corporate fleet and thereby accelerating commercial fleet EV adoption in Whistler.

RMOW staff will be working in collaboration with the Community Energy Association (CEA) for this funding application and the 2021 Whistler e-mobility strategy development. The CEA has extensive expertise in e-mobility and strategy development including impact modelling and engagement.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Official Community Plan

Community Vision

This funding application aligns with Whistler's vision is to be a place where the community thrives, nature is protected, and guests are inspired. The development of a coordinated e-mobility strategy aims to remove the barriers for the community, the commuter workforce, and guests to shift to lower carbon transportation and help to achieve Whistler's climate goals.

Goals, Objectives and Policies

This funding application and the resulting e-mobility strategy align with the following goals, objectives, and policies of Whistler's Official Community Plan's (OCP's).

10.2. Goal - Substantially reduce GHG emissions from vehicle and transportation

10.2.3. Objective – Increase integration of lower-impact technologies for community mobility

10.2.3.1. Policy – Integrate support for electric vehicle charging infrastructure into relevant municipal development policies, including electric vehicle-readiness requirements for parking areas and garages in new, or significant redevelopment, projects.

11.3. Goal - Minimize GHG emissions created by the transportation system

11.3.1. Objective – Support new technologies that reduce GHG emissions.

11.3.1.1 Policy – Support innovative technological advances in transportation that reduce GHG emissions and are appropriate to Whistler’s climate.

11.3.1.3 Policy - Support technology that promotes more efficient transportation choices.

Other Relevant Policies

The Climate Action Big Moves Strategy Big Move 2, “Decarbonize Passenger and Commercial Transport” has set the target that by 2030, 50 per cent of all vehicle kilometers in Whistler will be by zero emission vehicles. The goal of this funding application and resulting strategy is to identify actions that the RMOW can take towards achieving this target.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

The Emotive Clean Transportation Targets and Planning Pilot program is for up to \$20,000. For funding requests of \$10,000 or above, applicants must demonstrate that at least 50 per cent cost share funding is in place which may include in-kind staff time.

The final cost for the development of the 2021 Whistler e-mobility strategy is still under the development with the CEA due to the short timeline provided by the funder. The maximum cost for the project is \$20,000 for which the \$5,000 cost sharing portion can be provided by RMOW staff time. In addition, budget already committed for Big Moves outreach and engagement under the P079 project budget will be leveraged as part of the RMOW cost sharing portion. Hence, the requested grant amount in the funding application will be a maximum of \$15,000. No other budgetary contribution from the RMOW will be required for this funding application.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

The development of the 2021 Whistler e-mobility strategy will include internal and external stakeholder engagement, as well as public and focus groups consultation.

SUMMARY

The RMOW has an opportunity to receive \$15,000 in grant funding from the Province of BC to support developing an e-mobility strategy for Whistler. This strategy will help guide the overall prioritization and implementation of actions related to decarbonizing passenger transportation and help move Whistler towards the newly adopted Climate Action Big Moves goal that 50 per cent of vkms driven in Whistler will be by zero emission vehicle by 2030.

Respectfully submitted,

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for
Jessie Gresley-Jones
GENERAL MANAGER OF RESORT EXPERIENCE