
Climate and Asset Management Network

Recommendation

That the Standing Policy Committee on Finance recommend to City Council that His Worship the Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to execute on behalf of the City of Saskatoon the contribution agreement for the funding grant under the Climate and Asset Management Network Program.

Topic and Purpose

The purpose of this report is to obtain City Council approval to enter into a funding contribution agreement for the Climate and Asset Management Network Program.

Report Highlights

1. The Climate and Asset Management Network (CAMN) Program assists municipalities with integrating climate change and sustainability goals into decision making about infrastructure assets and services.
2. The City of Saskatoon (City) applied to participate in the CAMN Program, and on September 29, 2017, was approved for grant funding up to \$52,000.

Strategic Goal

This report supports the long-term strategy of reducing the gap in funding required to rehabilitate and maintain the City's infrastructure under the Strategic Goal of Asset and Financial Sustainability.

This report also supports the four-year priorities of communicating the benefits of environmental initiatives and considering mitigation strategies for the impact of severe weather events on the City's infrastructure under the Strategic Goal of Environmental Leadership.

Background

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Leadership in Asset Management Program ran from 2015 to 2017 and had similar features and goals as the new CAMN Program. The City did not participate in the Leadership in Asset Management Program.

Report

Overview of the Climate and Asset Management Network Program

The CAMN Program is adapted from the Leadership in Asset Management Program and will provide peer learning, grant funding and training to help municipalities incorporate climate change and sustainability goals into decision making about infrastructure assets. The CAMN Program is offered through FCM's Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program and funded by the Government of Canada.

There are two phases to the CAMN Program. Phase 1 is eligible for a maximum grant of \$52,000, and Phase 2 is a maximum grant of \$123,000 for a combined total maximum of \$175,000.

- In Phase 1, participants will:
 - Receive a grant to develop or refresh an asset management policy, strategy and governance framework;
 - Take part in training and learning opportunities with participants from 10 to 15 other municipalities from across Canada; and
 - Become part of a network of municipalities sharing knowledge about innovative asset management practices.
- In Phase 2, participants will strengthen a specific aspect of the asset management planning to better incorporate climate risks and environmental, social and economic sustainability considerations.

Municipalities which were not ready to undertake a Phase 2 project when applying for CAMN funding can apply for Phase 2 at any time during implementation or after completion of the Phase 1 project.

CAMN Grant Approval

On June 9, 2017, the Administration applied for grant funding, and on September 29, 2017, the Administration received approval from FCM for Phase 1 of the CAMN Program for a maximum of \$52,000 (Attachment 1). The Administration did not apply for Phase 2 at that time. As Phase 1 progresses, the Administration will determine a specific eligible project and apply for Phase 2.

During Phase 1, the City's team will consist of one representative each from the Finance, Major Projects and Preservation, and Environmental and Corporate Initiatives divisions. These team members will work together and with other City employees, as required, to develop the asset management policy, strategy and governance framework, as well as receive training and participate as part of the network of municipalities to share knowledge.

Options to the Recommendation

City Council can choose not to execute the agreement. Administration does not recommend this option as it would mean the City would not participate in the FCM program and would not benefit from the associated funding, peer learning and formalization of the asset management policy, strategy and governance framework.

Financial Implications

Eligible costs of this program include salary costs for the three team members to develop the asset management policy, strategy and governance framework, as well as travel reimbursement for mandatory training or peer networking sessions. It is estimated the total cost of Phase 1 will be \$82,900 of which the grant will cover eligible costs up to \$52,000. The remaining costs will be incurred and funded through already existing operating and capital programs where the salary for the three team members is currently charged.

Other Considerations/Implications

There are no policy, environmental, privacy, or CPTED implications or considerations. Neither a communication plan nor public/stakeholder engagement is required.

Due Date for Follow-up and/or Project Completion

Phase 1 is expected to be completed within 12 to 18 months. As Phase 1 progresses, the Administration will report back regarding the application for Phase 2 funding.

Public Notice

Public Notice pursuant to Section 3 of Policy No. C01-021, Public Notice Policy, is not required.

Attachment

1. FMC Letter of Approval, dated September 29, 2017

Report Approval

Written by: Kari Smith, Manager of Financial Planning
Reviewed by: Clae Hack, Director of Finance
Approved by: Kerry Tarasoff, CFO/General Manager, Asset & Financial Management Department

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