



STAFF REPORT

Title: Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP)

Meeting Date: September 22, 2020

Executive Summary:

The City of Cold Lake currently has access to \$985,739.51 in federal funding under the ICIP - Public Transit Stream to support public transit infrastructure projects. Under this stream, the federal government will fund 40 per cent or 50 per cent of eligible project costs dependent on the criteria outlined in the Canada - Alberta Integrated Bilateral Agreement. Projects under this stream must be completed by 2027/2028.

In 2018, Council included the purchase of the transit buses in the Capital Budget of which administration has been working with ICIP to have the City's application for transit buses approved. Furthermore it should be noted that the City's application (previous approved) for a transit shelter has been withdrawn (by the province) due to the changes in the eligible projects.

In order to provide additional relief to municipalities, the Government of Canada recently announced the COVID-19 Resilience Stream under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). Under this new stream, the federal government will fund up to 80 per cent of eligible costs for projects under \$10 million that will be completed by December 2021.

Further to the above, the City received a letter from the Minister of Transportation Ric McIver articulating that municipalities with transit systems have a new option with the allocated funding. This option is to have the funding moved from the Public Transit Stream to the COVID-19 Resilience Stream (which will have a different municipal matching formula described below). A copy of the letter has been attached for reference purposes.

In order to provide flexibility for municipal infrastructure, the Government of Alberta has made the decision to allow municipalities to determine whether they want to use their funding for eligible projects under the Public Transit Stream or for projects under the new COVID-19 Resilience Stream.

To facilitate next steps, Alberta Transportation is requesting that the City of Cold Lake commit to one of two options regarding its federal allocation:



1. Federal allocation of \$985,739.51 to remain under the ICIP - Public Transit Stream; OR
2. A portion, or all, of the federal allocation of \$985,739.51 to be moved to the new COVID-19 Resilience Stream.

It is administrations advice to maintain at least \$280,000 in the Public Transit Stream for the purchase of one (1) transit bus under the 40/60 funding formula. This number would have to double if Council supports the purchase of two (2) transit buses.

The remaining allocation could be reallocated to the new COVID-19 Resilience Stream which as a 20/80 funding formula. If Council retained \$280,000 in the Public Transit Stream, \$705,739.51 could be allocated to the COVID-19 Resilience Stream. Based on the funding formula of the COVID-19 Resilience Stream the funding could be allocated to a project(s) valued at approx. \$880,000 (\$704,000 federal and \$176,000 municipal)

The City of Cold Lake must provide Alberta Transportation with a written commitment of its preferred option, including a list of projects that fully allocates the funding under the preferred option, by no later than September 30, 2020. This request has a short turnaround with the City only receiving the letter on September 14, 2020. We understand that other municipalities with transit systems are faced with similar timelines.

Background:

The COVID-19 Resilience Stream will support the following types of projects:

- *Retrofits, repairs and upgrades for municipal, territorial, provincial and Indigenous buildings, health infrastructure and schools;*
- *COVID-19 response infrastructure, including measures to support physical distancing;*
- *Active transportation infrastructure, including parks, trails, foot bridges, bike lanes and multi-use paths; and*
- *Disaster mitigation and adaptation projects, including natural infrastructure, flood and fire mitigation, and tree planting and related infrastructure.*

The stream supports near-term, quick- start projects and projects must respect the following timeframes:

- *Construction must start no later than September 30, 2021; and,*
- *Projects must be completed by the end of 2021, or by the end of 2022 in the territories and in remote communities.*



Based on the above, the following are options for Council to consider:

OPTION 1 – North Arena

The City of Cold Lake has received completed a review of the cooling system at the Cold Lake North Arena. In summary, the floors typically lasted approximately 35 to 40 years with average use. The Cold Lake North Arena floor has an age of 52 years and demonstrations all the typical signs of wear that signals the end of its life expectancy. A copy of BST Consulting Inc.'s report has been attached for reference purposes. The order of magnitude cost for slab inclusive of dasher boards is \$850,000.

The cooling plant has been removed from the facility of which a temporary plant that is being rented is operating the cooling system. No condition report has been compiled for the plant however administration has received an estimate of \$1 million for a new plant to be developed.

Based on the Facility Management Plan completed by AECOM, the facility has some good bones however requires various maintenance attention (essentially a makeover). This include a new roof (both sloped and flat), exterior cladding, flooring, washrooms, and dressing rooms. This budget varies depending on the desired effect. The order of magnitude budget for modest renovations is \$1 million. This budget could as high as \$3 million, if desired for complete modernization of which is recommended. At the time, it was being recommended to either dispose or lease the facility and build a “new” arena at the Energy Centre.

In the alternative, the Lakeland Lacrosse Association expressed desire to have a turf installed in the facility at a value of \$120,000 to \$180,000. Further to this options, the facility would still need to receive a renovation to extend its useful life.

OPTION 2A – Community Trails Network Enhancements – Millennium Trail Rehabilitation

The City is seeing signs of distress relating to the condition of the Millennium Trail throughout the City. A portion of the funding could be allocated to the overlay of the Millennium Trail and/or expansion to the community trail network. Specifically in regards to Millennium Trail, based on recent tender results, the costs associated with overlays is \$70/m² based on a budget for approximately \$800,000 the order of magnitude of trails that can be completed is 4.5 kilometers.



This budget would not complete all of Millennium Trail (11.6 KM), however a good part of the trail would see new asphalt.

OPTION 2B – Community Trails Network Enhancements - Expansion

Based on the City's Parks and Trails Master Plan, administration has included a few priority trails that could be considered for grant funds. A copy of the Trail and Linkages Plans has been attached for reference purposes of which depicts all of the trails at the time of the plan development.

- English Bay Road Trail Expansion - \$470,000 (Lakewood Estates and Beach Avenue Connections)
- Red Fox Estates Trail Expansion – \$300,000
- Creekside Estates Trail Expansion - \$400,000
- Ecole Voyageur Area Trail Expansion - \$30,000

OPTION 3 – Reid Feildhouse

The dasher boards in the Reid Feildhouse has seen heavy use (specifically from the sport of Lacrosse). The City has received a cost estimate of \$110,000 to replace the boards. It would be recommended that a budget of \$125,000 be establish for the project.

OPTION 4 – Kinosoo Beach Change Room and Concession Upgrade

The Kinosoo Beach Master Plan as articulated improvements to the Kinosoo Beach Change Room and Concession to match the landscape architectural theme of Kinosoo Beach. The scope can been developed around an \$880,000 budget to enhance and upgrade this facility.

All of the above options are excellent projects that would be well received and benefited by the community. Unfortunately, there is not enough funding to tackle everything on the list.

ICIP – Public Transit Stream			
Project Name	Project Cost	Federal (40%)	Municipal (60%)
Transit Bus	700,000	280,000	420,000
Covid-19 Resilience Stream			
Project Name	Project Cost	Federal (80%)	Municipal (20%)
?????	882,174.39	705,739.51	176,434.88



Based on the above, the City of Cold Lake requires a municipal contribution of \$596,434.90

Alternatives:

Alternative options have been depicted in the background.

Recommended Action:

That Council pass a motion to direct administration to retain \$280,000 of the City's allocation of \$985,739.51 in the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Public Transit Stream to bolster the transit fleet as planned and accept the Minister of Transportation's invitation to redirect \$705,739.51 of the grant to the COVID-19 Resilience Stream for the Community Trails Network Enhancements.

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

Yes

Submitted by:

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