



ALBERTA  
TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Minister  
Deputy Government House Leader  
MLA, Calgary-Hays

SCANNED RECEIVED

SEP 14 2020

cc'd Mayor, Council  
CITY OF COLD LAKE

COPY

August 25, 2020

AR 81871

His Worship Craig Copeland  
Mayor  
City of Cold Lake  
5513 - 48 Avenue  
Cold Lake, AB T9M 1A1

Dear Mayor Copeland:

The Government of Alberta recognizes the impacts of COVID-19 and remains committed to supporting infrastructure projects that will stimulate the economy. 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. Eligible projects include:

- Retrofits, repairs and upgrades for municipal/territorial/provincial buildings, community/cultural/recreational infrastructure, health infrastructure, and schools;
- COVID-19 response infrastructure, including measures to support physical distancing and repurposing infrastructure to support pandemic response;
- Active transportation infrastructure, including parks, trails, foot bridges, bike lanes, and multi-use paths; and
- Disaster mitigation, adaptation, and remediation projects, including natural infrastructure, flood and fire mitigation, tree planting and related infrastructure, and remediation of contaminated sites and lands.

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*.

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. The Province is not required to provide a matching funding contribution for the COVID-19 Resilience Stream and has fulfilled its contribution to the Public Transit Stream.

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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**.

By allowing municipalities the opportunity to prioritize infrastructure projects, the Government of Alberta is providing a swift response to the impacts of COVID-19. Municipalities can refine the scope of previously identified public transit infrastructure under the existing ICIP – Public Transit Stream or identify new projects that meet the COVID-19 Resilience Stream eligibility criteria. Please note that some types of public transit infrastructure, such as safety retrofits for rolling stock, barriers, passenger, and driver safety improvements, are eligible for 80 per cent federal funding under the new COVID-19 Resilience Stream. For more information about eligible projects under this stream, please visit [www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/covid-19-resilience-eng.html](http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/covid-19-resilience-eng.html).

We request that the City of Cold Lake 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 21, 2020. Upon receiving this commitment, the Government of Alberta will endorse the desired option and projects. The department will work with municipal administration to secure federal funding for identified projects. If the City of Cold Lake is not able to identify projects for either of these options that utilize the total federal funding allocation, the amount may be returned to the Province in order to be used for provincial infrastructure priorities.

I look forward to continuing to work collaboratively on municipal infrastructure priorities. If you require additional information or would like to discuss this further, please contact **Matt Buffett, Manager for Transit Funding Programs**. Mr. Buffett can be reached toll-free at 310-0000, then 780-644-5074, or at [matt.buffett@gov.ab.ca](mailto:matt.buffett@gov.ab.ca).

Sincerely,



Ric McIver  
Minister

cc: Honourable Prasad Panda  
Minister of Infrastructure

Matt Buffett  
Manager, Transit Funding Programs