
TO: Committee of the Whole **MEETING:** October 8, 2019

FROM: Kim Fowler
Manager, Long Range Planning,
Energy & Sustainability **FILE:** 5285

SUBJECT: Corporate Carbon Neutral 2032 Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approve up to \$50,000 to be allocated from the Corporate Climate Action Reserve Fund to prepare a Corporate Carbon Neutral 2032 Plan.

SUMMARY

With the RDN Board's Strategic Plan goal of being carbon neutral by 2032, a new Corporate Energy and Climate Change Plan needs to be created to address corporate greenhouse gas emissions and energy reduction measures. The RDN's Corporate Climate Action Reserve Fund has been established to manage corporate energy consumption and hold carbon emissions from the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program. This Fund is used to improve corporate energy efficiency and reduce corporate GHG emissions and is appropriate to provide support for the update of this plan.

BACKGROUND

As one of the leaders in corporate climate action in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Partners in Climate Protection program, the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) adopted a Corporate Energy and Climate Change Plan (the Plan) in 2007. The Plan identified greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy reduction measures to guide RDN operations over time. With the RDN Board's Strategic Plan goal of being carbon neutral by 2032, a new plan needs to be created. The estimated funds are required to review the 2007 baseline data with the operations from 2007 to 2020 to project 2032 carbon neutrality. The Plan will also recommend best management practices, priority areas and other opportunities for short-term action in our corporate practice, service areas and will include possible pilot projects. Items that will be analyzed and explored to reduce the RDN's Corporate Climate Footprint will continue to move the RDN forward in line with other innovative and responsive local governments and will include items such as energy efficiency upgrades, alternative and renewable energy generation, integrated resource recovery, fuel sources and corporate vehicles. This study will also look for innovation, research, public education/demonstration and partnership opportunities to support the continued expansion of knowledge based industry in accordance with the priorities outlined in the 2019-2022 Board Strategic Plan.

The RDN's Corporate Climate Action Reserve Fund (the Fund) has been established to manage corporate energy consumption and hold carbon emissions rebates from the Climate Action

Revenue Incentive Program. The Fund is used to improve corporate energy efficiency and reduce corporate GHG emissions and has a current balance of \$609,000. The Electric Vehicle charging station grant application through Clean BC will initially require \$222,222 from the Fund with a net final requirement of \$60,000. Funding in the amount of \$50,000 is estimated to prepare a Corporate Carbon Neutral 2032 Plan, so there are adequate funds available in the Fund.

ALTERNATIVES


1. That the Board approve up to \$50,000 to be allocated from the Corporate Climate Action Reserve Fund to prepare a Corporate Carbon Neutral 2032 Plan.
2. That the Board provide alternate direction.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Corporate Climate Action Reserve Fund was established by Bylaw 1650. The Fund has a current balance of \$609,000. The Electric Vehicle charging station grant application through Clean BC will initially require \$222,222 from the Fund with a net final requirement of \$60,000. Up to \$50,000 is estimated to prepare a Corporate Carbon Neutral 2032 Plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Climate Change - Review and update corporate emissions plan and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction strategy.



Kim Fowler
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October 8, 2019

Reviewed by:

- G. Garbutt, General Manager, Strategic & Community Development
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer