



TRANSIT RADIO TOWER OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT - 2023

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approve the Regional District of Nanaimo enter into an agreement with the City of Nanaimo to allow the installation of Transit Services radio and auxiliary equipment on an existing tower and related building to provide hydro for \$1,200 annually for a five (5) year-term commencing April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2028.

BACKGROUND

The Regional District of Nanaimo's Transit Services (RDN) rely on radio services for effective communication between buses, dispatch, on-road support, and management on a daily basis. To maintain clear and reliable communication, a direct line of sight is essential for the Very High Frequency (VHF) radio system. The city of Nanaimo's site offers an ideal location that provides this necessary line of sight.

One important safety feature of the VHF radio system is the inclusion of a panic/emergency button. This panic/emergency button allows bus operators to immediately notify supervisors when they are in distress and require immediate assistance. This feature enhances safety measures for both bus operators and passengers.

The original agreement between the RDN and the City of Nanaimo was approved by the Board on November 14, 1995. The last agreement was presented at the Regular Board Meeting, June 26, 2018, and the Board passed the following motion:

'It was moved and seconded that the Regional District of Nanaimo enter into an agreement with the City of Nanaimo to allow the installation of Transit Services radio and auxiliary equipment on an existing tower and related building and provide hydro for \$1,200 annually for a five (5) year term commencing April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2023.'

Since the original signing, the agreement has been renewed continuously, demonstrating a successful partnership.

With the renewed agreement, effective April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2028, the RDN's Transit System will be able to continue utilizing the existing tower and building for their repeater and auxiliary equipment. The agreement maintains all other terms and conditions from the previous agreement, with no increase in the annual fee, ensuring a seamless continuation of services.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All other terms and conditions of the agreement remain the same as the previous agreement with no increase to the annual fee. The total financial authorization requested is \$1,200 annually for a (5) five-year term. This annual amount is to provide hydro and rack space for the RDN's repeater and auxiliary equipment. This annual cost is included in the proposed annual 2024 budget.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The radio tower services are important for the efficient, safe, and reliable operation of the RDN's transit system, advancing the Board's strategic focus on Service and Organizational Excellence.

Transportation and Transit - Provide opportunities for residents to move effectively through and around the Region.

REVIEWED BY:

- D. Holmes, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT:

1. Transit Radio Tower Occupancy Agreement 2023