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**TO:** Electoral Area Services Committee      **MEETING:** April 9, 2019

**FROM:** Joan Michel  
Parks and Trails Coordinator      **FILE:** 2015-001

**SUBJECT:** Community Work Funds Allocation for Final Village Way Path Design – Electoral Area B

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

That, pending project approval by the Union of BC Municipalities, up to \$20,000 of unallocated 2019 Electoral Area B Community Works Funds be allocated to the Village Way path project in order to conclude a Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure approved final project design and operating plan.

## **SUMMARY**

In early March 2019, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) confirmed support for the Regional District's updated Village Way path design. The RDN can now proceed with final design, updating of development cost estimates and preparation of an operating plan.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Village Way path project was initiated in 2014 with the assistance of Electoral Area B Community Works Funds. In late 2015, MoTI rejected the RDN's design for safe passage by pedestrians and cyclists because of the extent of proposed infrastructure within the vehicle-active roadway. In the spring of 2018, MoTI and the RDN came to terms on a modified infrastructure approach that should provide for safe passage without over-taxing the Ministry's ability to accommodate non-vehicular works within the roadway.

The draft Village Way design calls for approximately 1.5 km of 2 m wide path separated from the drivable surface of North Road by an asphalt curb and a 0.3 m gravel buffer. The road shoulder will be repaved and provide 0.9 m of clean asphalt from fog line to curb for use by road cyclists. Road drainage will be managed by a system of spillways and shallow catchbasins, manholes, infiltration trenches and culverts. The path surface, which sits at grade with the top of the asphalt curb and starts 0.3 m from top of curb, will be hard surface along business frontages and carpath gravel beyond. A series of retaining walls and slope will separate path from private property.

The RDN's Village Way engineer Newcastle Engineering Ltd. has submitted a fee proposal in the amount of \$15,000 to assist the Region in developing final design and operating plan. Because design requirements may yet change and there is no template for the operating plan, a project budget envelope of \$20,000 is recommended to ensure a thorough design can be achieved in a timely manner. It is forecast that this work can be completed by late summer 2019. Recommendations are expected to be presented to the Regional Board in the fall of 2019 on the proposed MoTI licence, funding of path construction and advancing to tender phase.

An operating plan for the path will address ongoing funding, regulation, maintenance and future repairs, and will provide the basis for the RDN budgeting for annual operating expenses and asset management. After approval of a final design and operating plan, MoTI's role will be to issue a permit or licence allowing the RDN to construct the Village Way.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. That, pending project approval by the Union of BC Municipalities, up to \$20,000 of unallocated 2019 Electoral Area B Community Works Funds be allocated to the Village Way path project in order to conclude a Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure approved final project design and operating plan.
2. That conclusion of design and operational plan work be deferred to 2020 and required funds to complete the work be allocated within the Electoral Area B Community Parks operating budget approved for that year.
3. That alternate direction be provided.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Cost to complete the design and operating plan phase of Village Way planning is estimated at \$20,000. Currently, there is \$197,162 in unallocated 2019 Area B Community Works Funds (CWF).

To date, \$712,822 in Electoral Area B CWF have been allocated for path construction. Combining the \$197,162 in unallocated 2019 CWF and the approximately \$171,466 in 2020 future CWF, a total of \$1,081,450 in CWF are potentially available to complete the Village Way project. At this time, the estimated cost to complete project design, proceed through tender phase and build the Village Way path, engineering services included, is \$875,000 to \$1,000,000.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

Focus On Service And Organizational Excellence - We Recognize Community Mobility And Recreational Amenities As Core Services



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March 26, 2019

Reviewed by:

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