



# Regional Board Report

**TO:** Regional Board

**FROM:** Carol Teschner  
Financial Manager

**DATE:** March 17, 2019

**SUBJECT:** 2019 Community Works Fund Usage Approval

**Voting Entitlement:** *All Directors – Weighted Corporate Vote – Simple Majority LGA 210.1*

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**Purpose:** To seek approval from the Regional Board to utilize the Gas Tax – Community Works Funds towards the completion of projects in the Central Okanagan West and Central Okanagan East Electoral Areas.

## Executive Summary:

UBCM Community Works Funds are provided to local governments to assist in funding local infrastructure needs. Projects described in the attached proposal are eligible for funding through the Gas Tax – Community Works Fund in both Central Okanagan West and East Electoral Areas. As a requirement of the Community Works Fund program, the Regional Board is required to approve the list of new projects and expenditures.

The funding requests for the Gas Tax – Community Works Fund for the new 2019 projects in both the West and East Electoral Areas are as follows:

- \$12,000 for Central Okanagan West (leaving a balance of \$1,685,805 in uncommitted funding for 2019).
- \$119,500 for Central Okanagan East (leaving a balance of \$210,096 in uncommitted funding for 2019).

## RECOMMENDATION:

**THAT** the Regional Board approves the use of \$131,500 of Gas Tax – Community Works Funds to complete the proposed projects listed in this report and as reflected in the RDCO 2019-2023 Five-Year Financial Plan.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carol Teschner  
Financial Manager

Approved for Board's Consideration

Brian Reardon, CAO

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## Implications of Recommendation:

Strategic Plan:	The use of Community Works Funds for projects in the Central Okanagan East and West Electoral Area meets the following strategic priorities; Priority 1 – Provide Proactive and Responsive Governance, Priority 2 – Ensure Asset, Service and Financial Sustainability, Priority 3 – Nurture Responsible Growth and Development, and Priority 4 – Protect and Promote Our Environment and Lifestyle.
Financial:	Consistent with the proposed RDCO 2019-2023 Financial Plan. Authorization of the Regional Board is a requirement to utilize Community Works Funds, without authorization the projects cannot proceed.

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## Background:

The Regional District of Central Okanagan receives Federal Community Works Funding (Gas Tax) for the Central Okanagan West and East Electoral Areas. The distribution of these funds to the various local governments in BC is through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), they manage the funds on behalf of the Federal Government of Canada. Each year UBCM distributes to local government, their share of Community Works Funding based on population.

In 2019 the RDCO will receive at least \$705,850. Central Okanagan West's share would be \$523,960, and Central Okanagan East's share would be \$181,890. The overall funding available in the Community Works Funding account that has not been committed and is available for 2019 projects is \$1,697,806 in Central Okanagan West, and \$329,595 in Central Okanagan East.

Attached to this report is a breakdown, by Electoral Area, of the CW Funds and interest received and used from 2006 – 2018, as well as previously approved projects to which the Board has committed funds.

In 2019, as described below, there is 1 project totaling \$12,000 in Central Okanagan West, and 5 projects totaling \$119,500 in Central Okanagan East. Each of these projects meets the required eligibility project criteria identified by the Community Works Funding agreement, which include:

- Local roads, bridges
- Highways
- Short-sea shipping
- Short-line rail
- Regional and local airports
- Broadband connectivity
- Public transit
- Drinking water
- Wastewater
- Solid waste
- Community energy systems
- Brownfield redevelopment
- Sport infrastructure

- Recreational infrastructure
- Cultural infrastructure
- Tourism infrastructure
- Disaster mitigation
- Capacity building

In order for staff to proceed with the projects identified in the attachment, it is required as part of the Community Works Funding agreement to receive approval of the Regional Board. This approval is in addition to the approval given for the 2019-2023 RDCO 5 Year Financial Plan.

**Electoral Area Central Okanagan West New Project Proposed to be Funded by Community Works Funds \$12,000 Total:**

- 143 – Westside Parks Capital Projects (Budget Binder – Tab 8 – Pages 88-89):
  - 2019 Funds Requested: \$12,000
    - Killiney Park Swim Raft \$12,000

**Electoral Area Central Okanagan East New Projects Proposed to be Funded by Community Works Funds \$119,500 Total:**

- 121 – Ellison Heritage Community Centre (Budget Binder – Tab 8 – Pages 78-79):
  - 2019 Funds Requested: \$72,500
    - Heritage Improvements to Community Hall \$50,000
    - Electrical System Upgrade \$ 2,500
    - Storage Rooms for Community Hall \$20,000
- 123 – Joe Rich Community Hall (Budget Binder – Tab 8 – Pages 80 - 81):
  - 2019 Funds Requested: \$32,000
    - Asset Management Improvements \$32,000
- 303 – Falcon Ridge Water System (Budget Binder – Tab 8 – Pages 13 – 14):
  - 2019 Funds Requested: \$15,000
    - Hydrants \$15,000
- If approved, the remaining uncommitted CWF balances would then be as follows:
  - Central Okanagan West: \$1,685,805
  - Central Okanagan East: \$210,096

**Financial Considerations:**

It is anticipated that approval for the identified CWF funded projects will be concurrent with the approval of the RDCO 2019-2023 Financial Plan.

Projects cannot proceed without approval of the Regional Board to utilize Community Works Funding.

**Alternative Recommendation:**

The Board could elect to approve only some of the above projects. If that is the case, a resolution would also be required to incorporate any change into the adoption of the RDCO 2019-2023 Financial Plan. The current financial plan includes the projects and CWF. In most situations, this would mean also removing the capital project, or portion thereof, entirely for now.

***Considerations not applicable to this report:***

Organizational Issues  
External Implications

Attachment(s):

RDCO 2019 Budget Information:

- 2006 – 2018 History of RDCO Community Works Funds Receipt and Usage – CO West Projects
- 2006 – 2018 History of RDCO Community Works Funds Receipt and Usage – CO East Projects