



Regional Board Report

Request for Decision

To: Regional Board

From: Director of Corporate Services

Date: May 18, 2023

Subject: UBCM Grant Application: Public Notification & Evacuation Route Planning

Voting Entitlement: All Directors - Unweighted Corporate Vote - Simple Majority (LGA s.208)

Purpose: To seek Board support for staff to apply for a grant application under the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund

Executive Summary:

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) is a suite of funding programs intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations, and communities in responding to emergencies.

Funding is provided by the Province of BC and is administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). Staff have prepared an application to request funding for a Public Notification & Evacuation Route Planning exercise in 2023 related to a functional multi-agency exercise focusing on pre-planning for evacuation routes during an emergency.

Recommendation(s):

THAT the Regional Board supports a submission of an application under the 2023 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for \$156,600 to complete a Public Notification & Evacuation Route Planning Framework.

Respectfully submitted by: Sandra Ballan-Brown, Executive Assistant Corporate Services

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Corie Griffiths".

Corie Griffiths, Director of Corporate Services

Attachment(s): UBCM-CEPF-Public Notification and Evacuation Route Planning -Grant Application
2023-04-28

Strategic Plan Alignment:

Priorities: Sustainable Communities, Transportation and Mobility

Values: Relationships, Collaboration

Background:

The Emergency Operations Centre is a regional program, and all local governments work collaboratively to identify where in the region support is required including best evacuation routes and communications to support during evacuations.

The Central Okanagan is supported by one main highway and will be significantly impacted during large wildfire events affecting each local government which include the District of Peachland, City of West Kelowna, Westbank First Nations, City of Kelowna, District of Lake Country and the Regional District of Central Okanagan Boundaries.

The RDCO is applying for funding to identify Planning Notification and Evacuation Route Planning framework for all local government and support organization stakeholders.

The proposed project activities include:

- Development of a new or updated Evacuation Route Plan and/or new or updated Public Notification Plan
 - Collaborative planning work with neighbouring jurisdictions
 - Preparation of maps, spatial data, and metadata (where applicable must meet Specifications for LiDAR for the Province of British Columbia and if applicable the Specifications for the Production of Digital Elevation Models for the Province of British Columbia)
 - Training, knowledge sharing, and exercising activities required to inform or test the Evacuation Route Plan and/or Public Notification Plan
 - Presentation of the Evacuation Route Plan and/or Public Notification Plan to Council, Board, Band Council, or Treaty First Nation government, community organizations, etc.
 - Amendments to relevant local plans, bylaws, or policies that are specific to evacuation route and/or public notification planning (e.g., Official Community Plan, land use plans, engineering and public works bylaws or policies).
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Considerations:**Organizational/External:**

This project will further the modernization of the EOC and ESS processes and improve the ability of the EOC to practice responding to and be ready for various large scale emergency support services scenarios. The timing, duration, and context of emergency events is largely unpredictable, and planning allows the OEC staff to respond to emergencies in a timely and effective manner.

Financial:

Staff is requesting that 100% of the project costs be covered by this grant.

Considerations not applicable:

- Legal/Statutory Authority
 - Alternate Recommendation
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