

# Regional Board Report

TO: Regional Board

FROM: David Komaike Director of Engineering Services

DATE: September 29, 2020

**SUBJECT:** CleanBC Communities Fund – Grant Application

Voting Entitlement: Stakeholder Vote – Weighted – West Kelowna & Peachland – LGA 209

**Purpose:** To seek Regional Board approval for an application to the second intake of the CleanBC Communities Fund (CCF) for energy efficiency improvements at the Westside Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant.

# **Executive Summary:**

In 2019, the Board approved support for an application to the CleanBC Communities Fund for energy efficiency improvements at the Westside Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. That application was unsuccessful.

The fund has recently opened a second intake and is accepting applications this fall. The RDCO has prepared a new application that aligns operational needs, lessons learned from the previous application, and grant requirements. This new application is smaller in value, and still provides for needed work to be completed within the Westside Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The original 2019 application was for \$1 million. This application has been reduced to \$300,000 to better align with the immediate needs of the facility, the grant requirements, and learnings from the original application.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Regional Board approves submitting a grant funding application for 'Energy Efficiency Improvements at the Westside Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant through the ICIP – Green Infrastructure: Climate Change Mitigation Sub-Stream CleanBC Communities Fund;

AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Board supports the project and commits to its share (up to \$80,000) of the project should the grant be approved.

Respectfully Submitted:

David Komaike Director of Engineering Services

Approved for Board's Consideration

Marilyn Rilkoff, Deputy CAO

## Prepared by: Travis Kendel, Manager of Engineering Services

#### Implications of Recommendation:

Strategic Plan:

• Environmental Priority – Undertaking improvements within community infrastructure to reduce our environmental footprint through energy conservation.

Financial:

- Aligning fiscal needs with available grants and operational needs allows for overall cost avoidance to the District and its members.
- Harnessing new technology to improve energy efficiency translates directly into reduced operating expenses.

## Background:

In 2019, the Board carried a unanimous resolution to support an application to the CleanBC Communities Fund for energy efficiency improvements at the Westside Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. This included the replacement of multiple blowers within the facility that are critical to the treatment of wastewater. That application was unsuccessful.

"The second intake is supported by \$25.9 million in federal funding and \$21.5 million in provincial funding, for a combined investment up to \$47.4 million in clean infrastructure projects in B.C. communities.

The second intake will add to the first round of federal and provincial funding that committed more than \$63 million for CleanBC Communities Fund projects. The Province is accepting applications from local governments, First Nations, Indigenous organizations, not-for-profit and for-profit organizations throughout British Columbia for investments in clean-energy projects.

The projects will support sustainable communities, create good jobs and build back a better, greener, affordable post-pandemic B.C."

The RDCO has prepared a new application that aligns operational needs, lessons learned from the previous application, and grant requirements. The application deadline is in November.

This new application includes the replacement of one of three blowers within the facility, reducing the overall scope of the project and addressing the immediate operational needs of the Westside Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The total project cost within this new application is expected to be no more than \$300,000. As a condition of the application, the RDCO is responsible for approximately 27% of the total project expense (\$80,000).

# **Financial Considerations:**

- The RDCO committed to fund \$310,000 of the 2019 grant application, which originally proposed a project total of \$1 million. This new application reduces the project to a total maximum cost of \$300,000.
- The works included within the application are required in 2021 to address aging critical infrastructure.

# Alternate Recommendation:

THAT the Regional Board accepts the ICIP – Green Infrastructure: Climate Change Mitigation Sub-Stream CleanBC Communities Fund grant application for information.

Attachment(s):

Clean Communities Fund Program Guide