



Regional Board Report

TO: Regional Board

FROM: Murray Kopp
Director – Parks Services

DATE: February 16, 2021

SUBJECT: ICIP-CVRIS ARDM Grant – Mission Creek Greenway Streambank Repairs

Voting Entitlement: *All Directors - Weighted Stakeholder Vote – Simple Majority - LGA 209*

Purpose: To seek Board approval to submit a grant application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program COVID Resilience Infrastructure Stream Adaptation, Resilience, and Disaster Mitigation (ICIP-CVRIS ARDM) grant program.

Executive Summary:

In 2020, the spring freshet in Mission Creek had extremely high water flows and as a result an 80m portion of streambank upstream of the Cedars Bridge was eroded away. The eroded bank is susceptible to future high flow events that could jeopardize the integrity of the Cedars Bridge abutment. As a result, staff have received early capital expenditures approval to make the necessary repairs. It was then learned that the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program COVID Resilience Infrastructure Stream Adaptation, Resilience, and Disaster Mitigation (ICIP-CVRIS ARDM) grant program was available and eligible for this project. Given the short timeframe for submission of an application, staff submitted an application to the grant program subject to board support. In the meantime, staff are working behind the scenes on detailed design and permitting.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Regional Board authorize staff to submit an application to the Federal/Provincial Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program-COVID Resilience Infrastructure Stream-Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation grant program for funding towards completion of the \$247,825 Mission Creek Greenway Streambank Repair Project.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Murray Kopp".

Murray Kopp, Director – Parks Services

Approved for Board's Consideration

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Reardon".

Brian Reardon, CAO

Prepared by: Wayne Darlington, Manager – Park Planning & Capital Projects

Implications of Recommendation:

Strategic Plan:	This project supports the strategic priorities of the Regional Board. In particular, the Sustainable Communities and the Environment strategic objectives.
General:	The streambank erosion that has occurred at the Cedars Bridge is required to be repaired. Without effort to provide protection and redirection of flows the bridge abutment is at threat of failing. This could have a direct impact on the bridge integrity, downstream infrastructure, recreational values and ecological values along Mission Creek.
Financial:	A successful grant funding application would result in the pre-approved capital funding by the Regional Board in December 2020 for expenditures in Q1 2021, the unspent amount would be returned to Capital Facility Reserves.
Policy:	Project falls under requirements of the Province of BC's Water Sustainability Act, Section 11 application(s) will be required.
Legal/Statutory Authority:	The project area is located straddling between RDCO tenured lands and lands operated by the RDCO under an operation and maintenance agreement with the City of Kelowna.

Background:

In 2020, the spring freshet on Mission Creek resulted in a high streamflow event. As a result, an approximately 80m length of right bank, upstream of the Cedars Bridge on the Mission Creek Greenway was severely eroded. The erosion that occurred is significant enough to threaten the integrity of the Cedars Bridge right bank bridge abutment from future high streamflow events.

During the summer of 2020, Dobson Engineering Ltd. was consulted to assess the risk the eroded streambank was placing on the bridge abutment. In summary of the assessment it was determined that the alignment of the main channel of Mission Creek in this location shifted. As a result, this places additional pressure on the 80m long streambank upstream of the Cedars Bridge during high streamflow events. Any future high streamflow event may cause further erosion which will threaten the bridge abutment and the Mission Creek Greenway trail. It is recommended by Dobson Engineering to reconstruct the streambank and protect it with rip rap armour, preferably prior to the 2021 spring freshet. The protection works would provide greater resiliency to future streamflow events and reduce the risk to the Cedars Bridge and Mission Creek Greenway.

As a result of these recommendations, staff received early approval from the Regional Board to proceed with capital expenditures towards repairing the streambank. It should be noted that staff attempted to receive funding from Emergency Management BC and Disaster Financial Assistance, however, given no emergency was identified in the area of erosion, the RDCO did not qualify.

In early 2021, staff became aware of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program- COVID Resilience Infrastructure Stream-Adaptation, Resilience, and Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, and subsequently submitted a complete application by the deadline subject to Regional Board authorization and support for the grant application submission. It is expected that if the RDCO is successful in achieving the grant funding, that the capital funding already approved for the project would be returned to capital facility reserves and reallocated for future capital projects. This grant program is fully supported (100%) by the Federal and Provincial governments (80/20) and does not require applicant funding contributions. The project must be started before September 30, 2021 and completed by December 31, 2021.

In order to achieve a successful grant, the applicant must demonstrate that their project is essentially shovel ready and improves the applicant's ability for mitigating natural disasters. This project meets these requirements. Any further erosion of the streambank or failure of the bridge abutment could cause damage to the structure of the bridge, impact the Mission Creek Greenway, impact downstream infrastructure and ecosystems.

RDCO staff are currently working with Dobson Engineering on completing the design and permitting requirements. It is expected that due to the nature of the grant program, that a decision would be quickly forthcoming. Therefore, RDCO staff are requesting the Regional Board's support and authorization towards submitting an application for grant funding for the Mission Creek Greenway Streambank Repair project through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program- COVID Resilience Infrastructure Stream-Adaptation, Resilience, and Disaster Mitigation Grant Program.

Alternative Recommendation:

THAT the Regional Board does not authorize staff to submit an application to the Federal/Provincial Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program-COVID Resilience Infrastructure Stream-Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation grant program for funding towards completion of the \$247,825 Mission Creek Greenway Streambank Repairs and Resiliency Improvements Project.

Considerations not applicable to this report:

- *Organizational*

Attachment(s):

- 1) Project Location Map – Mission Creek Greenway Streambank Repair Project
- 2) Mission Creek Greenway Cedars Bridge Damage Assessment – Dobson Engineering Ltd.