

Regional Board Report

Request for Decision

Approved for Board Consideration

To: Regional Board

Brian Reardon, CAO

From: David Komaike, Director of Engineering Services

Date: January 24, 2022

Subject: City of Kelowna Fire Service Agreement – June Springs Road & Lakeshore Road

Voting Entitlement: All Directors – Weighted Corporate Vote – LGA .210

Purpose: To seek Regional Board approval to renew the Fire Service agreement with the City of Kelowna for the June Springs and Lakeshore Road - Fire Protection Areas for a five (5) year term.

Executive Summary:

Property owners living in the June Springs Road area and south end of Lakeshore Road (outside the Kelowna boundary) receive fire service from the City of Kelowna Fire Department through an agreement between the Regional District and City of Kelowna. These areas are in the RDCO but are either too far removed to be serviced by one of the existing RDCO fire departments or too small to support their own fire department.

Under the agreement, the Kelowna Fire Department will provide the same declared service level as other areas of the City but does not include wildfire or interface fire suppression to land on which no improvements have been made. This Agreement shall be for a (5) five-year term for the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2027.

If the Regional Board supports renewing the fire service agreement with the City of Kelowna for a five (5) year term, the following recommendation is provided for consideration.

Recommendation(s):

THAT the Regional Board approves entering into the Fire Service Agreement with the City of Kelowna for the Lakeshore Road and June Spring Road fire protection area, in the form attached to the report from the Director of Engineering dated January 24, 2022;

AND THAT the Board Chair and Corporate Officer be authorized to execute the Agreement.

Respectfully Submitted

David Komaike Director of Engineering Services

Attachment(s): Fire Service Agreement - June Springs Road & Lakeshore Road Fire Protection Area PowerPoint Presentation

Strategic Plan Alignment:

Priorities: Sustainable Communities

Values: Collaboration, Resiliency

Background:

Since 2004 property owners in the June Springs Road area and south end of Lakeshore Road (outside the Kelowna boundary) receive fire service from the City of Kelowna's Fire Department through an agreement between the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) and the City of Kelowna. These communities are within the RDCO boundaries but are either too far removed to be serviced by one of the existing RDCO fire departments or too small to support their own fire department.

The current agreement expired December 31, 2021. The City of Kelowna passed a motion on October 25, 2021

"THAT Council authorizes the City to renew the Fire Service Agreement for Lakeshore Road and June Springs Road with the Regional District of the Central Okanagan for a five (5) year term, in the attached contract from the Fire Chief.

AND THAT the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the Fire Service Agreement for Lakeshore Road and June Springs Road."

In January 2022, RDCO staff were informed of the city's intent to renew the RDCO and City of Kelowna's June Springs and Lakeshore Road(s) Fire Service Protection Area agreement.

The agreement provides fire protection services to areas not practically serviced by other means. Under the agreement, Kelowna's Fire Department will provide the same declared service level as areas of the City but does not include wildfire or interface fire suppression to land on which no improvements have been made. Wildfire response is addressed in the Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement covered by all fire departments within the RDCO.

The term of the proposed agreement is January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2027. This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon giving six (6) months written notice to the other party.

Considerations:

Organizational/External:

The agreement provides fire protection to areas which could not be practically serviced by any other means. The cost to develop, staff and maintain a fully operational fire department would present significant financial and logistical challenges. The City is able to provide the service at rates comparable to those offered to their residents.

Financial:

For providing these services, the RDCO shall pay the City a fee, by July 1st of each year. The fee shall be calculated using an amount equal to the annual levy amount for Fire Services charged by the City to property owners within Kelowna's geographical boundaries. For each \$1,000.00 of assessed value of land and improvements located on such properties and this shall not exceed \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value. There is also an administrative fee of 15% calculated into the agreement.

The 2022 estimated cost is \$16,000 for June Spring's and \$26,000 for Lakeshore Road. *Legal/Statutory Authority:*

Section 263 of the *Local Government Act* authorizes the Regional District to enter into agreements for the provision of services to its residents.

Alternate Recommendation:

THAT the Regional Board recieves the Report from the Director of Engineering dated January 24, 2022 with respect to June Spring Road & Lakeshore Road Fire Protection Area - Fire Service for information.