

Priorities Committee Meeting_Mar12_2019

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

Overview of Government Grants

Report Purpose

To provide an overview of all government grants provided to Strathcona County in 2018 including details on the programs and services supported by these grant funds.

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

Goal 1 - Build strong communities to support the diverse needs of residents

Goal 2 - Manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure

Report

Strathcona County used \$31.1 million of Provincial and Federal government grants in 2018 to support operating and capital programs. The following table provides a breakdown of the 2018 grant amounts (in 000's).

2018 Government Grants	Used for Capital	Used for Operations	Total
Provincial Grants	\$21,710	\$7,322	\$29,032
Federal Grants	1,666	426	2,092
	<u>\$23,376</u>	<u>\$7,748</u>	<u>\$31,124</u>

Capital Grants and Projects They Supported (in 000's)

The following is a summary of the major capital grant programs the County received funding from and the projects these grants supported in 2018:

1. Municipal Sustainability Initiative (\$17,156) is the Province of Alberta's funding commitment to assist municipalities in meeting growth-related challenges and enhancing long-term sustainability.
 - Multi-Use Agriculture Facility – Design, Land and Utilities (\$6,040)
 - Heartland Industrial Road Phase 1 – Construction Upgrades (\$2,486)
 - Wye Road, Brentwood and Nottingham Improvements (\$1,990)
 - Replace First Responders Radio System (\$1,707)
 - Rural and Residential Road Rehabilitation (\$1,281)
 - Facility Capital Lifecycle Upgrades (\$1,083)
 - Ardrossan Spray Park (\$852)
 - Petroleum Way Road Improvements (\$468)
 - SPSY – Office Block Design (\$340)
 - Emerald Hills Regional Park Pavilion Phase 2 (\$290)
 - County Hall Phase 2 Renovations (\$211)
 - 17 Street (105 Avenue to Sherwood Park Freeway) – Design, Land and Utilities (\$152)
 - Kinsmen Leisure Centre (\$146)
 - Various other projects (\$110)

Priorities Committee Meeting_Mar12_2019

2. Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (\$3,208) is a provincial program that provides funding to municipalities to construct or rehabilitate transportation infrastructure.
 - Heartland Industrial Road Phase 1 – Construction Upgrades (\$3,019)
 - Annual Bridge Replacement Project (\$189)
3. Green Transit Incentives Program (\$1,346) is offered by the Province of Alberta to support new public transit projects that will lead to a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion by decreasing the number of vehicles on the roads.
 - Acquire Three Double Decker Buses (\$1,346)
4. Federal Gas Tax Fund (\$1,038) transfers federal gas tax revenue to the Province of Alberta to assist in reducing the backlog of necessary sustainable capital municipal infrastructure projects that have been deferred.
 - Annual Bridge Replacement Project (\$494)
 - Queen Street - RR 221A to Third Ave – Road / Sidewalk Upgrades (\$167)
 - Park Infrastructure Lifecycle Upgrades (\$137)
 - Traffic Signal / Intersection Replacements (\$92)
 - Annual Asphalt Trail Rehabilitation Program (\$59)
 - Annual Sidewalk Missing Links Program (\$56)
 - Various other projects (\$33)
5. Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (\$628) provides funding to help accelerate municipal investments to support the rehabilitation of transit systems, new capital projects, and planning and studies for future transit expansion to foster long-term transit plans.
 - Acquire Three Double Decker Buses (\$428)
 - Replace Three Mobility Buses (\$200)

Operating Grants and Programs They Supported (in 000's)

The following is a summary of the major operating grant programs the County received funding from and the programs these grants supported in 2018:

- Family and Community Support Services Grants (\$3,403) including:
 - i. General Support Services (\$2,086) – general funding to help support programs that help community social needs, inform public of services, support children's social development, etc.
 - ii. Parent Link Centres (\$473) – provides parenting resources for families and caregivers.
 - iii. Child Care Subsidy (\$290) – provides child care subsidies for low-income families.
 - iv. Family Home Visitation Program (\$249) – provides support for parents and expecting parents in raising healthy, safe and secure children.
 - v. Engaging Boys and Men Project (\$163) – promotes gender equality, respect and healthy relationships by involving men and boys in prevention efforts.
 - vi. Take Action on Bullying (\$54) – creates awareness and preventative programs on family violence and bullying.
 - vii. Opioid Awareness Program (\$41) – creates a better understanding about opioid drug use, local available support and what people can do if they or someone they know is using opioids.
 - viii. Early Child Development Mapping (\$37) – provides support to families and young children and raises awareness about the importance of the early childhood development years.

Priorities Committee Meeting_Mar12_2019

- ix. Other Community Support Grants (\$10) – provide support to community initiatives.
- Municipal Policing Assistance Grant (\$1,130) – provides assistance to cover costs of municipal policing to ensure effectiveness, assist in implementing provincial initiatives, and enhances service to residents.
 - Municipal Sustainability Initiative Operating (\$767) – operating portion of MSI funding and was used to cover fuel expenses.
 - Public Safety Answering Points / 911 Grant (\$764) – to promote and enhance public safety by supporting the funding of Alberta's 911 call centres.
 - Public Library Grant (\$531) – general funding to ensure residents have equitable access to library services.
 - Federal Gas Tax – Smart Fare / Smart Bus (\$313) – provides funding for Smart Fare / Smart Bus equipment and technology. These costs do not meet the requirements for capitalization and have been classified as operating grants.
 - Police Officers Grant (\$200) – provides yearly funding to help cover policing costs.
 - Agricultural Service Board (\$198) – program targeting prevention and control of agricultural weeds and pests.
 - Victims of Crime Fund (\$139) – provides personal and financial support for victims of crime such as assault, theft, abuse, etc.
 - Alberta Community Partnership (\$94) – funding to support the Beaver Hills Biosphere Strategic Plan (\$88) and the Fort Saskatchewan Municipal Internship Program (\$6).
 - Canada Arts Presentation Fund (\$70) – assistance for funding professional art festivals and art presenters.
 - Electronics and Paint Roundup (\$40) – recovery of environmental fees for collecting and safely disposing electronics and paint at enviro stations.
 - Affordable Housing Grant (\$30) – provides funding for resident's renovating secondary suites which provide affordable housing at a reduced rent rate.
 - Canada Summer Jobs (\$27) – provides quality work experiences for youth to develop and improve their skills.
 - Summer Temporary Employment Program (\$27) – provides funding for high school or post-secondary students to gain workplace insight, skills and experience.
 - Celebrate Canada (\$15) – provides funding to subsidize Canada Day festivities.

Grants in 2019 Approved Budget (in 000's)

The 2019 approved budget includes \$6,995 of operating grants and \$46,352 of capital grants. The increase in capital grants is due to one-time funding of various annual infrastructure rehabilitation programs with Municipal Sustainability Initiative funding instead of reserves.

Council and Committee History

December 6, 2018 THAT Administration provide a report by the end of the first quarter of 2019 that provides an overview of all government grants provided to Strathcona County and includes details on what programs are supported by these grant funds.

Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Legislative/Legal: n/a

Interdepartmental: Multiple Strathcona County departments have used Provincial and Federal grants to support operating and capital programs

Master Plan/Framework: n/a