
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program / COVID-19 Resilience Stream**Report Purpose**

To seek Council's support for the transition of some of the County's allocation of Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) funding to COVID-19 Resilience Stream funding, and to direct Administration to proceed with preparing a letter of intent identifying projects for both grant streams.

Recommendation

THAT the proposed Investing in Canada Infrastructure Programs projects and their preferred funding sources, as set out in Enclosure 1 of the September 29, 2020 Corporate Planning report, be approved; and that Administration send a letter to the Province by September 30, 2020 to provide the approved list.

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

Further to the letter received from the Provincial Minister of Transportation (Enclosure 2), the Federal government is allowing a one-time reallocation of ICIP funds to a new COVID-19 Resilience Stream that would need to be fully spent by the end of 2021.

The County was allocated \$15.4M of ICIP funding in 2017/2018, with a ten-year window to spend the funds. No projects were put forward at that time, instead waiting until there was an outcome to Regional Transit.

The current ICIP allocation allows 40% of the funds to be applied to any eligible projects until 2027/2028, which means the County would have to contribute 60% of our own funds to the projects.

Transitioning to the new stream would allow 80% of the grant to be used on new projects but the 20% County contribution would be required in 2021. In the short term, the County would be required to allocate funding not originally contemplated for the 2021 budget year but applying the grant dollars would realize a cost savings on those same projects over the long-term.

In addition, there is a risk that any project not completed by the end of 2021 would lose any unspent grant dollars, thus putting the obligation on the County to make up the balance from County resources.

Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Legislative/Legal: n/a

Interdepartmental: Corporate Finance, Corporate Planning, Intergovernmental Affairs, Strathcona County Transit, Recreation Parks and Culture, Facility Services, Transportation Planning and Engineering and Fleet Services would be involved in these projects going forward.

Master Plan/Framework: n/a

Communication Plan

Administration to prepare and submit a letter of intent to the Minister of Transportation.

Enclosures

- 1 ICIP COVID-19 Resilience Stream Project List
- 2 Letter from the Minister of Transportation –
ICIP Funding and the COVID-19 Resilience Stream