

THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF WHITE ROCK
CORPORATE REPORT



DATE: June 10, 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Candice Gartry, Director, Financial Services

SUBJECT: White Rock Financial Plan (2024-2028) Bylaw, 2024, No. 2496, Amendment No. 1, 2024 No. 2504

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT Council receive the June 10, 2024, corporate report from the Director, Financial Services, titled “White Rock Financial Plan (2024-2028) Bylaw, 2024, No. 2496, Amendment No. 1, 2024, No. 2504”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this corporate report is to introduce the White Rock Financial Plan (2024-2028) Bylaw, 2024, No. 2496, Amendment No. 1, 2024, No. 2504. The amendments captured in this bylaw include:

1. Carry forwards of budgeted but unspent items from 2023, which are being carried over in to the 2024 financial year;
2. Updated budget amounts related to Council’s updated Exempt Compensation Policy No. 403; and
3. Updates to reserve fund balance based on the 2023 General Fund Surplus allocations approved by Council at their April 15, 2024, regular Council meeting.

These amendments do not change the 2024 utility user rates or property rates which have already been approved by Council.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

Motion # & Meeting Date	Motion Details
2024-188 May 27, 2024	THAT Council receive the corporate report dated June 10, 2024, from the Director of Financial Services, titled “2023 Asset Improvement Projects Carried Over into 2024”. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

<p>2024-177 May 13, 2024</p>	<p>THAT Council give final reading to “White Rock Annual Property Tates Bylaw, 2024, No. 2490”.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
<p>2024-131 April 15, 2024</p>	<p>THAT Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receive the April 15, 2024, corporate report from Candice Gartry, Director, Financial Services, titled “2023 General Fund Operating Surplus Allocation”; 2. Confirm that Council agreed to ratify a settlement with CUPE Local 718 in March of 2024 that included increases to wages and benefits and that any increases above the amounts already provided for in the 2024 financial plan would be funded as follows: 2024 incremental costs to be funded from the 2023 General Fund Operating Surplus, and 2025 incremental costs to be funded via taxation; 3. Endorse any funding cost increases above the amounts already provided for in the 2024 financial plan in accordance with Council’s Exempt Compensation Policy No. 403 as follows: 2024 financial year incremental costs from the 2023 General Fund Operating Surplus, and 50% of the incremental cost for 2025 from the 2023 General Fund Operating Surplus with the balance coming from taxation; 4. Direct staff to distribute \$1.5M of the 2023 Unallocated General Fund Operating Surplus to the new ERP/Financial System project; and 5. Direct staff to distribute \$0.8M of the 2023 Unallocated General Fund Operating Surplus to the General Operating Fund Accumulated Surplus reserve. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
<p>2024-132 April 15, 2024</p>	<p>THAT Council direct staff on the distribution of the remaining 2023 Unallocated General Fund Operating Surplus funds (following motion 2024-131) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1M for the Pier; • \$2M for the Community Hub Project; and • \$200,000 to be placed in unallocated surplus. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
<p>2024-090 March 11, 2024</p>	<p>THAT Council give final reading to <i>White Rock Financial Plan (2024-2028) Bylaw, 2024, No. 2496</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The *Community Charter (Charter)* requires that a municipality adopt annually, by bylaw, a five-year financial plan. This section also allows a municipality to amend the financial plan, by bylaw, at any time to provide for greater certainty. Additionally, the *Charter* states that

municipalities must not make an expenditure other than those that are included for that year in its financial plan.

The amendments captured in this bylaw include:

1. Carry forwards of budgeted but unspent items from 2023, which are being carried over in to the 2024 financial year;
2. Updated budget amounts related to Council's updated Exempt Compensation Policy No. 403; and
3. Updates to reserve fund balance based on the 2023 General Fund Surplus allocations approved by Council at their April 15, 2024, regular Council meeting.

These amendments do not change the 2024 utility user rates or property rates which have already been approved by Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The budget updates included in this Bylaw amendment add expenses into all years of the 2024-2028 Financial Plan. There is no change to the already approved property tax and utility user rates established for 2024.

COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Once this bylaw is approved and the larger financial plan document updated, the updated 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan will be made available on the city's website.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS

Engineering and Municipal Operations will proceed with the tender and construction of the various asset improvement projects. The operating projects will continue to be undertaken in 2024 via their respective departments.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Maintaining infrastructure to provide safe, reliable, and sustainable infrastructure for the community while minimizing impacts on the environment, and managing delivery of services efficiently and effectively, are Council priorities.

OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES

The *Charter* states that municipalities must not make an expenditure other than those that are included for that year in its financial plan. To comply with the *Charter* it is recommended to adopt a bylaw amending the 2024-2028 Financial Plan to include the required aforementioned items prior to the awarding of a contract or start of services for those items.

Should Council decide not to adopt a bylaw amending the 2024-2028 Financial Plan to include the aforementioned items, the City risks:

1. Delays of critical projects and initiatives planned for 2024 which could negatively impact City residents;
2. Recruitment and retention challenges; and
3. Financial instability.

CONCLUSION

Staff recommend that Council:

1. Receive the June 10, 2024, corporate report from the Director, Financial Services, titled “White Rock Financial Plan (2024-2028) Bylaw, 2024, No. 2496, Amendment No. 1, 2024, No. 2504;” and
2. Give first, second and third readings to the draft Bylaw attached as Appendix A.

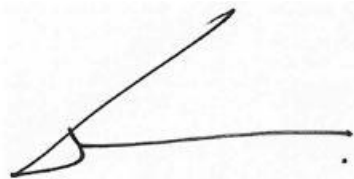
Respectfully submitted,



Candice Gartry, CPA, CGA
Director, Financial Services

Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer

I concur with the recommendation of this corporate report.



Guillermo Ferrero
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A: White Rock Financial Plan (2024-2028) Bylaw 2496, 2024,
Amendment No. 1, No. 2504