

THE CORPORATION OF THE  
**CITY OF WHITE ROCK**  
**CORPORATE REPORT**



**DATE:** February 7, 2022

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Jim Gordon, P. Eng., Director, Engineering and Municipal Operations

**SUBJECT:** Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Green Infrastructure – Environmental Quality (EQ) Program Application

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT Council:

1. Receive for information the corporate report dated February 7, 2022, from the Director of Engineering and Municipal Operations, titled “Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Green Infrastructure – Environmental Quality (EQ) Program Application;”
  2. Approve ICIP-EQ program application for the Stormwater Management Improvements on Marine Drive; and
  3. Approve a financial commitment in the amount of \$2.7M in City funding to be disbursed for this project in support of the grant application process.
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**PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION**

<b>Motion # &amp; Meeting Date</b>	<b>Motion Details</b>
2020-07 January 13, 2020	That Council approves the request to proceed with the submission of a Patent for the Water Treatment Plant. Motion Carried

**INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

The Stormwater Management Improvements on Marine Drive including Stormwater Mitigation Project in the Little Campbell River aligns with Council’s commitment to the City of White Rock’s Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation strategies endorsed at the council meeting on January 13, 2020, and the Council’s strategic priorities to improve the relationship with the Semiahmoo First Nation community.

On October 8, 2021, the Canadian and British Columbian governments committed up to \$270M in the third intake under the ICIP-EQ program to support cost-sharing of infrastructure projects in communities across the province. The program will provide funding of up to 73.33% of eligible project costs (consisting of 40% from Government of Canada and 33.33% from Province of British Columbia).

Eligible projects will support public infrastructure, defined as tangible capital assets primarily for public use and benefit. The ICIP EQ sub-stream is focused on infrastructure that will support

quality and management improvements for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater, as well as reductions to soil and/or air pollutants through solid waste diversion and remediation. The submission deadline is February 23, 2022. One application is permitted for each municipality.

City staff reviewed Council's 2018 to 2022 Corporate Priorities and the 2018 to 2022 Financial Plan and recommended that a grant application be submitted for the Stormwater Management Improvements on Marine Drive including Stormwater Mitigation Project in the Little Campbell River under the ICIP EQ funding program in recognition of the Project's high priority status and in consideration of the program eligibility requirements.

The purpose of this corporate report is to obtain Council's support for the submission of the grant application by the City, and Council's approval of a financial commitment in the amount of \$2.6M in City funding to be disbursed, which is required as part of the grant application process.

### **PAST PRACTICE /POLICY/LEGISLATION**

The Stormwater Management Improvements on Marine Drive Project including Stormwater Mitigation on Little Campbell River (the "Project") is re-developed and re-defined from the previous Columbia Diversion and Habgood Pump Station Relocation projects. The Habgood Pump Station Relocation project was first identified in the 2012 Drainage Master Plan and identified as a priority in the 2014 to 2018 Council Corporate Priorities, and in the 2018 to 2022 Financial Plan as well.

The Project will upgrade drainage infrastructure along Marine Drive from Stayte Road to Finlay Street to prevent stormwater surge and flooding, upgrade sanitary sewers to avoid sewer surcharge, and integrate a new pump station on Marine Drive to mitigate direct stormwater into Little Campbell River by diversion to Semiahmoo Bay via new outfalls near Finlay Street. The Project is also intended to include stormwater quality improvements before discharge to Semiahmoo Bay

### **DISCUSSION**

The City has experienced stormwater surge and flooding, compounded with occasional sanitary sewer surcharges resulting from inflow and infiltration during extreme rainstorms along Marine Drive between Stayte Road and Kent Street. The most recent flooding event occurred during the fall of 2021. The untreated water dispersed into Semiahmoo Bay and caused water contamination and soil pollution concerns. In addition to Semiahmoo Bay, Little Campbell River also received extreme stormwater surge and posed a flooding threat to the community.

After a comprehensive review of the City's Drainage Master Plan, the studies and designs from the past few years, staff recommended prioritizing the Project and identified the Project as suitable for the third intake of ICIP -EQ sub-stream. Considering flooding history and climate change, this Project will address the urgent need to protect Semiahmoo First Nation land and the southeastern White Rock communities from flooding, in addition to preventing the degradation of the natural environment and ecosystem balance of Semiahmoo Bay.

In consideration of ICIP-EQ sub-stream program eligibility requirements and desired outcomes, the project will achieve the following improvements:

1. The Project will increase the City's capacity to manage stormwater and wastewater on Marine Drive;

2. The Project will improve water quality and soil quality of Semiahmoo Bay and Little Campbell River;
3. The Project will enhance regional environmental capacity, quality and ecosystem surrounding Semiahmoo Bay and Little Campbell River; and
4. This Project will enhance the quality and livability of the Semiahmoo First Nation and southeastern White Rock communities.

This Project will also encourage development of a more constructive and positive relationship with the Semiahmoo First Nation community.

Staff propose submitting the application by the deadline of February 23, 2022. This can be accomplished subject to a council resolution supporting the project in general, and the required funding commitment of \$2.7M by the City.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Staff revisited previous drainage feasibility studies, design and cost estimates, and adjusted scopes of work and the cost estimates in the development of the updated Project. The Project cost estimate is \$9.95M. Of this amount, \$9.87M is comprised of “eligible cost” under the grant program, and the City could qualify for a grant of up to \$7.2M, which requires the City to secure internal funding of \$2.6M to be eligible to apply in the grant application process.

Funds for the storm sewer, sanitary sewer and roadworks are identified in the Financial Plan over the five years of the project life in the Storm Sewer Fund, Sanitary Sewer Fund and General Fund, subject to Financial Plan Amendments to reconcile project names and timing. The total project funds are contingent on grant funding, therefore, the Project cannot proceed without grants. The City share of up to \$2.6M is available through the three funds identified. As this is an improvement in the current 2022 to 2026 Financial Plan, the City’s Proposed 2022 Financial Plan document will be adjusted before the budget is finalized.

### **CONCLUSION**

Staff recommend the City participate in the ICIP-EQ grant program opportunity to upgrade the aging infrastructure and improve stormwater and sanitary sewer conveyance and treatment in southeast White Rock, adjacent to the Semiahmoo First Nation lands. It is recommended that Council approve the City’s proposed grant application for the Stormwater Management Improvements on Marine Drive Project including Stormwater Mitigation in Little Campbell River and adopt the recommendations noted in this corporate report.

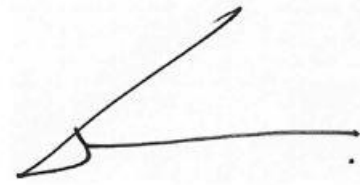
Respectfully submitted,



Jim Gordon, P. Eng  
Director, Engineering and Municipal Operations

**Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer**

I concur with the recommendations of this corporate report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'G' followed by a horizontal line and a small dot at the end.

Guillermo Ferrero  
Chief Administrative Officer