



Report to: General Committee

Date Report Authored for: June 13, 2016

SUBJECT: Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program (Intake Two)
- Grant Application
PREPARED BY: Sara Tam, ext. 7533

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) THAT the report, "Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program (Intake Two) - Grant Application", be received;
- 2) AND THAT the Commissioner of Community and Fire Services be authorized to apply to the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program for those infrastructure projects selected by Council;
- 3) AND THAT staff report back on appropriate funding sources should Markham be successful in obtaining one or more grants;
- 4) AND THAT staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is to seek authorization to apply for grant funding for selected Markham infrastructure projects from Intake Two of the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program.

BACKGROUND:

Through the Federal Government's Economic Action Plan 2015 and as a part of a coordinated federal approach to celebrating the 150th anniversary of Confederation in 2017, the Government of Canada has launched the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program. Intake One closed in June last year with over 1,100 applications. The funding results for Markham's applications were as follows:

Projects Submitted as per Council Approval	Total Project Cost	Grant Status
Markham Village Library Square Rehabilitation and New Cenotaph – Phase 1	\$1,900,000	Approved at \$950,000
Bronze Monument to Benjamin Thorne and onsite Park Amenities	\$700,000	Approved at \$133,571
Stiver Mill Expansion – Phase 2	\$801,150	Not Approved

The total amount of grant funding received by the City of Markham from Intake One totalled \$1,083,571. The two approved projects are currently in progress.

Citing the success of Intake One, Intake Two was announced on May 24, 2016. The Government of Canada is doubling its investment in community and cultural infrastructure by providing an additional \$150 million over two years to renovate, expand or improve these spaces across Canada. For southern Ontario, the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) is delivering the program with an allocation of \$44.4 million.

The eligibility requirements of Intakes One and Two are the same.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

Program Criteria and Eligibility

Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program provides funding for the rehabilitation, renovation, and expansion of existing community infrastructure assets that are non-commercial in nature. An eligible project must be:

- Open for use to the public and not limited to a private membership;
- Leverage a minimum of 50 percent of funding from other sources with potential priority given to projects that leverage 66.6 percent or more (maximum grant amount per project is \$1.0 million); and
- Be substantially completed by March 31, 2018.

Ineligible projects include construction of new infrastructure, temporary installations, or facility expansions that would result in more than 50 percent increase in square footage.

Eligible projects must fall within the following project categories to be eligible for funding under the program:

- Community centres (including Legion Halls);
- Cultural centres and museums;
- Parks, recreational trails, including fitness trails, bike paths and other types of trails;
- Libraries;
- Recreational facilities including local arenas, gymnasias, swimming pools, sports fields, tennis, basketball, volleyball or other sport-specific courts, golf courses, ski hills or other types of recreational facilities;
- Tourism facilities;
- Docks;
- Cenotaphs; and
- Other existing community infrastructure assets for public benefit that have a local community impact, such as local roads, drinking water treatment and distribution systems, connectivity and broadband, local airports, solid waste management and wastewater infrastructure.

The deadline to apply for Intake Two funding is 5:00 p.m. EDT on June 24, 2016.

Markham's Approach Relating to Canada 150 Infrastructure Program

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT), at its June 1st meeting, used the following considerations to arrive a list of potential Markham projects to include in this report for Council's consideration:

- 100% compliance to the Canada 150 Program requirements, including a maximum program grant of \$1,000,000 and a minimum of 50 percent funding from other sources;
- Alignment to City of Markham priorities;
- Priority given to projects that provide high visibility and generate community excitement due to the celebration nature of this funding;
- Capital projects that have a community infrastructure focus;
- Capital projects that have little to no additional operating costs and extend the life cycle of existing assets; and
- Projects that can be substantially complete by March 31, 2018.

Staff is seeking Council decision in identifying the projects to be submitted to Intake Two of the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program. For reference, three projects were selected by Council for application as part of Intake One last year.

Projects Identified by ELT for Council Consideration

Project Name	Key Work	Total Project Cost Estimate	City Portion
A. City Gateways Refurbishment	1. Markham & Steeles – replace signage, water feature, gazebo, and hard surface elements 2. Bayview & Steeles – replace signage, landscaping, and stone work	\$918,000	\$459,000
B. Trees for Tomorrow – with Canada 150 Focus	Planting of Native Canadian Species at: 1. Civic Centre – grouping of flowering trees 2. Milne Park – Maple Leaf Forever Grove 3. Canada 150 – a commemorative tree and sign at 150 of our parks	\$230,000	\$115,000
C. Renewing our Local Parks (Park Renaissance Program)	Reinvigorate our local parks in existing communities, with a focus on older parks – at least one park in each Ward	\$1,000,000	\$500,000
D. Stiver Mill Expansion – Phase 2	Expand building, new parking lot, and extend boardwalk	\$850,000	\$440,000
E. Multi-Use Pathways Program	3 pedestrian bridges, boardwalk and pathway upgrades at Milne Dam Conservation Area (Drakefield Rd to Markham Rd)	\$3,415,000	\$2,415,000
F. Morgan Park*	Revitalize existing park with new amenities to accommodate growth	\$648,000	\$324,000
G. Morgan Park Pool*	Replace outdoor pool, all building structures, and add water play area	\$3,150,000	\$2,600,000

Note: * For Projects F & G, staff has identified a potential risk in meeting the funder's timeline in light of the requirements relating to project plan development and community input/engagement.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND TEMPLATE:

City of Markham will provide a minimum of 50 percent of funding for qualified projects submitted to FedDev Ontario. Any grant funding received through the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program will reduce the requirement for municipal funding sources for previously identified capital project priorities. Staff will need to identify a funding source should Markham be successful in obtaining one or more of the grants. There will be operating and lifecycle impacts for any of the projects that are approved.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

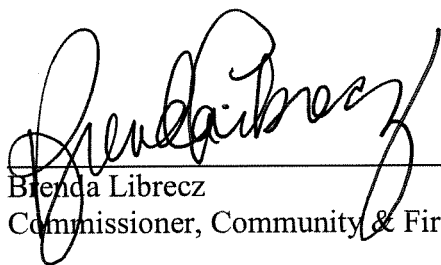
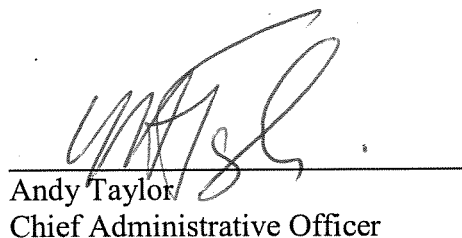
N/A

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This report supports Building Markham's Future Together by focusing on fiscal stewardship and the provision of quality community infrastructure. It further supports our organization's E3 efforts and the Business Outcomes of customer satisfaction and financial management, as outlined in the Excellence Markham framework.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

Various departments have been consulted through ELT.

RECOMMENDED BY:
Brenda Librecz
Commissioner, Community & Fire Services
Andy Taylor
Chief Administrative Officer**ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A