



The Corporation of the City of Courtenay

# Staff Report

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**To:** Council

**File No.:** 1845-20

**From:** City Manager (CAO)

**Date:** July 31, 2024

**Subject:** 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement

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**PURPOSE:** To seek Council approval to enter into and execute the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Administrative Agreement on the Canada Community-Building Fund in British Columbia took effect on April 1, 2024. The Tripartite Agreement between Canada, British Columbia, and UBCM replaces the 2014-2024 Agreement and provides the administrative framework for the delivery of the Canada Community-Building Fund (formerly the federal Gas Tax fund) to local governments and other recipients from 2024 to 2034.

The Canada Community-Building Fund provides predictable, long-term and stable funding to local governments in British Columbia for investment in infrastructure and capacity-building projects. Over the 10 years of the Agreement, British Columbia is expected to receive a transfer of \$1.6 billion in funding from Canada.

The Canada Community-Building Fund is guided by three national program objectives, which include productivity and economic growth, a clean environment and strong cities and communities. In BC, the Canada Community-Building fund is delivered through three program streams: Community Works Fund; Strategic Priorities Fund; and Metro Vancouver Regional Fund.

Over the past six years alone, the City of Courtenay has utilized \$13,847,331 of the Canada Community-Building Funds to support a variety of projects at various stages, including:

## **2023**

- Lewis Avenue – 17<sup>th</sup> Street to 19<sup>th</sup> Street – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$169,807)
- Pine Place – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$28,402)
- Cedar Crescent – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$164,061)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Street – Kilpatrick Avenue to Grant Avenue – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$129,100)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Street – Kilpatrick Avenue to Fitzgerald Avenue – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$141,573)
- Hemlock Street – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$36,863)
- Grant Street – 22<sup>nd</sup> Street to 25<sup>th</sup> Street – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$163,266)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Street – Kilpatrick Avenue to Grant Avenue – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$59,744)
- Harmston Road – 25<sup>th</sup> Street to 23<sup>rd</sup> Street – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$207,184)
- Bike Lane – 1<sup>st</sup> Street from Rod and Gun Road to Mitchell Road (\$48,636)

**2023 TOTAL = \$1,148,636**

## 2022

- 6<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Multi-Use Active Transportation Bridge Construction (\$128,500)
- Storm Drainage – 200 Back Road Storm Culvert Improvement (\$40,000)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Refurbishment (\$640,000)
- Bike Lanes and Paving – Old Island Hwy & 5<sup>th</sup> Street (Bridge to Headquarters) (\$406,633)
- Fitzgerald Avenue – 4<sup>th</sup> Street to 5<sup>th</sup> Street – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$153,319)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Street – Willemar Avenue to Piercy Avenue – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$194,937)
- 14<sup>th</sup> Street – Cumberland Road to Willemar Avenue – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$194,939)
- Cowichan Avenue – Ryan Road to 4<sup>th</sup> Street East – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$84,429)
- Dingwall Road – Highway 19A to Western Road – Asphalt Rehabilitation (\$384,808)

**2022 TOTAL = \$2,227,565**

## 2021

- Storm Drainage – 200 Back Road Storm Culvert Improvement (\$118,392)
- Storm Water Master Plan (\$50,000)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bike Lanes – Design and Construction (\$149,907)
- Cumberland Road Improvements – Piercy Avenue to 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue (\$332,212)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Multi-Use Active Transportation Bridge Construction (\$171,491)
- Greenwood Sewer Trunk Re-Routing (\$1,000,000)

**2021 TOTAL = \$1,822,002**

## 2020

- Storm Drainage – 200 Back Road Storm Culvert improvement (\$1,110)
- Asset Management Storm & Sewer Assessment (\$248,095)
- Storm Water Master Plan (\$42,041)
- Veterans Memorial Parkway Road Improvements (\$993,799)
- Chaster Road Improvements (\$12,443)
- Anderton Avenue Road Improvements (\$54,017)
- Muir Road & Alderwood Place Pedestrian Signals (\$5,628)
- Veterans Memorial Parkway & Caledon Crescent Pedestrian Signals (\$5,628)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bike Lanes – Design and Construction (\$30,051)

**2020 TOTAL = \$1,392,812**

## 2019

- Storm Drainage – 200 Back Road Storm Culvert improvement (\$23,620)
- Glacier View Plaza – Drainage Improvements (\$141,368)
- Dike Replacement – Flood Prevention Strategy (\$17,735)
- Transportation Master Plan (\$73,406)
- Asset Management Storm & Sewer Assessment (\$147,753)
- Land Disposition and Acquisition Plan (\$18,500)
- Storm Water Master Plan (\$105,239)
- Road Paving – Dogwood Drive (\$45,630)
- Road Paving – Cumberland Road (\$275,234)
- Road Paving – Lake Trail Road (\$431,280)
- Road Paving – Piercy Avenue (\$155,203)

- Road Paving – Mission Road (\$19,950)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Street “Complete Street” Pilot Project (\$2,355,118)

**2019 TOTAL = \$3,810,036**

## **2018**

- Asset Management Storm & Sewer Assessment (\$172,670)
- Asset Management Sidewalks Assessment (\$21,786)
- Asset Management Building Assessment (\$155,188)
- Asset Management Asphalt Assessment (\$42,379)
- Asset Management Traffic Signal Assessment (\$23,861)
- Asset Management Creek Crossing Assessment (\$51,110)
- Land Disposition Acquisition Plan (\$60,000)
- Storm Water Master Plan (\$150,000)
- Sewer Master Plan (\$18,140)
- Water Master Plan (\$99,129)
- Dike Replacement – Flood Prevention Strategy (\$67,175)
- Transportation Master Plan (\$150,000)
- Willemar Avenue Watermain Replacement (\$500,000)
- Road Rehabilitation Project – 17<sup>th</sup> Street (\$547,476)
- Road Paving Cumberland Road (\$203,095)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Street “Complete Street” Pilot Project (\$836,431)
- SCADA System Implementation (\$298,598)
- Storm Drainage – 200 Back Road Storm Culvert Improvement (\$34,966)
- Glacier View Plaza – Drainage Improvements (\$14,276)

**2018 TOTAL - \$3,446,280**

## **DISCUSSION:**

To continue to receive financial support from the Canada Community Building Fund, a resolution of Council is required to authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to enter into the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement on behalf of the City of Courtenay. The Community Works Fund Agreement, if approved, will be effective as of April 1, 2024 and will remain in effect until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2034 unless City and UBCM agree to renew it.

Eligible projects as outlined in the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement include:

- 1. Local roads and bridges** – roads, bridges and active transportation infrastructure
- 2. Short-sea shipping** – infrastructure related to the movement of cargo and passengers around the coast and on inland waterways, without directly crossing an ocean
- 3. Short-line rail** – railway related infrastructure for carriage of passengers or freight
- 4. Regional and local airports** – airport related infrastructure (excludes the National Airport System)
- 5. Broadband connectivity** – infrastructure that provides internet access to residents, businesses, and/or institutions in Canadian communities
- 6. Public transit** – infrastructure which supports a shared passenger transport system which is available for public use
- 7. Drinking water** – infrastructure that supports drinking water conservation, collection, treatment and distribution systems

8. **Wastewater** – infrastructure that support wastewater and storm water collection, treatment and management systems
9. **Solid waste** – infrastructure that supports solid waste management systems including the collection, diversion and disposal of recyclables, compostable materials and garbage
10. **Community energy systems** – infrastructure that generates or increases the efficient usage of energy
11. **Brownfield redevelopment** – remediation or decontamination and remediation of a brownfield site within municipal boundaries
12. **Sport infrastructure** – amateur sport infrastructure
13. **Recreational infrastructure** – infrastructure that supports arts, humanities and heritage
14. **Cultural infrastructure** – infrastructure that supports arts, humanities and heritage
15. **Tourism infrastructure** – infrastructure that attract travellers for recreation, leisure, business or other purposes
16. **Resilience** – infrastructure and systems that protect and strengthen the resilience of communities to withstand and sustain service in the face of climate change, natural disasters and extreme weather events
17. **Fire Halls** – fire hall and fire station infrastructure – including fire trucks
18. **Capacity building** – includes investment related to strengthening the ability of municipalities to develop long-term planning practices including: capital investment plans, integrated community sustainability plans, integrated regional plans, housing needs assessments and housing planning, and/or asset management plans related to strengthening the ability of the recipients to develop long term planning practices

The Agreement also articulates eligible and ineligible expenses, and establishes financial reporting requirements.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Should the City choose to not enter into the new 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement, any funding provided under the previous Agreement can be used for the originally intended purpose until exhausted under the terms of the 2014-2024 Agreement. Not entering into the new 2024-2034 Agreement would prevent the City from applying for additional funding. The loss of Canada Community Building Fund support will increase the capital and capacity building related costs for future projects, and the City would be required to fully fund project costs or identify other sources of funding to replace the benefit of the Canada Community Building Fund.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS:**

The City of Courtenay has received and utilized funding from the Canada Community Building Fund, formerly Gas Tax, since 2005. The funds incorporation into the City's current financial and budget processes is long established. As such there are no additional administrative implications anticipated from entering into the 2024-2034 Agreement.

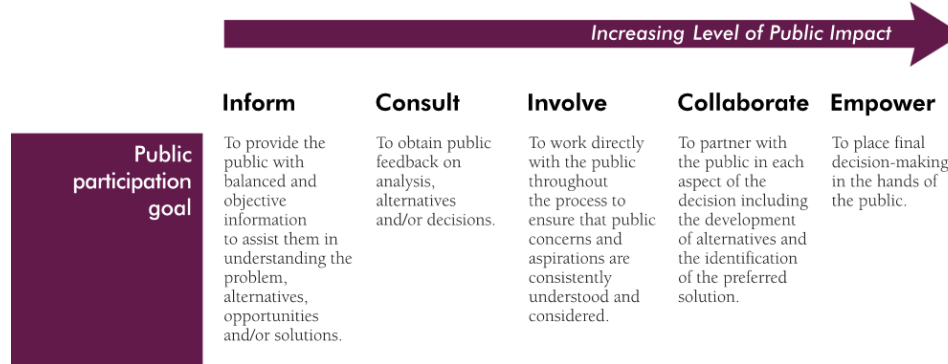
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES REFERENCE:**

The 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement will maintain the City's ability to offset capital costs for a variety of projects.

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:**

Each project funded under the Community Works Fund Agreement is subject to communication standards as outlined in the Agreement. Depending on the specific project, additional or expanded engagement activities may be warranted and will be considered and reported to Council and the public on a case by case basis.

Staff would inform the public of the City's approval of the Community Works Fund Agreement based on the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation via this council report:



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**OPTIONS:**

1. THAT Council, on behalf of the City of Courtenay, agree to enter into the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement with Union of BC Municipalities; and,  
  
THAT the Mayor and Corporate Officer be directed to sign the 2024-2034 Community Fund Agreement on behalf of the City of Courtenay.
2. THAT Council not agree to enter into the 2024-2034 Community Fund Agreement.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Letter from UBCM – Re: 2024-2034 Canada Community-Building Fund Agreement
2. 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement, under the Administrative Agreement on the Canada Community-Building Fund

Prepared by: Kate O'Connell, Director of Corporate Services (CO)  
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