



## COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: November 12, 2024

From: Ron Bowles, Chief Administrative Officer

Subject: **Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaption Grant Application 2**

Report Prepared by: Trevor Paille, Engineering Technologist II

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**RECOMMENDATION** to Consider and Resolve:

**THAT** Council approve staff applying to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund seeking funding under the Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation stream to design flood mitigation measures along McDougall Creek in the Pike/Capri area;

**AND THAT** Council agree to amend the 2025 to 2029 Financial Plan, as may be required, to reflect grant funding;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council authorize the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to execute the required contribution agreement, in the event of a successful application.

### **STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS**

**Invest in Infrastructure** – We will invest in building, improving and maintaining infrastructure to meet the needs of, and to provide a high quality of life for, current and future generations.

**Foster Safety and Well-Being** – We will pursue through direct action, advocacy, and collaboration with local and regional service providers, investments in community health, needs-based housing, emergency preparedness, policing, and other services that foster safety and well-being in West Kelowna.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) is a suite of funding streams intended to enhance the resilience of local governments, First Nations and communities in responding to emergencies and to reduce risks from future disasters due to natural hazards and climate-related risks.

Funding is provided by the Province of BC and is administered by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM).

Through the Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation Stream (DRR-CA) – Category 1: Foundational Activities, which funds activities such as design, an allowance of \$150,000 per application is available. The application was submitted to meet an Oct. 4 deadline. A Council resolution in support of the application is a requirement. Resolutions may be submitted post deadline, provided the core application was submitted on time.

During the program’s March 2024 intake, the City also completed an application to the DRR-CA (Category 3: Structural Project) for construction of a mitigation project on McDougall Creek in the Hitchner/Jennens area. The application was subsequently revised to Category 1, for design, and a grant in the amount of \$150,000 was received.

While future grant funding for construction can never be guaranteed, receiving initial funding for a DRR-CA project under Category 1, for design, improves a future Category 3 application’s chance of success. Grant program staff have encouraged this approach.

**DISCUSSION**

The City has completed a Flood Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan with CEPF funding support. The plan identifies a structural mitigation project on McDougall Creek in the Pike/Capri area, presently valued at approximately \$3 million. This project is a suitable candidate for design funding through the DRR-CA Category 1: Foundational Activities.

McDougall Creek has historical flooding problems due to large flows, shallow channel sections, erosion and sedimentation, and problems at stream crossings. The City experienced flood damages from the 2017 and 2018 freshet events and required significant resources to limit damages.

In addition to the historical flooding, the 2023 McDougall Creek Wildfire above West Kelowna burned more than 60 per cent of the creek’s watershed area. Of the area burned, more than 30 per cent was classified with high burn severity. The impacts of the wildfire significantly increase the likelihood of flooding over the next several years.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Design costs for the project are estimated at \$300,000, while funding from a successful DRR-CA Category 1 application is \$150,000 maximum. The remaining funding to complete the designs will be requested as part of 2025 Budget deliberations.

**COUNCIL REPORT / RESOLUTION HISTORY**

Date	Report Topic / Resolution	Resolution No.
March 26, 2024	<p><b>Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaption grant application</b>  <b>THAT</b> Council direct staff to apply to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund seeking funding under the Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate</p>	<b>C109/24</b>

Adaptation stream to construct flood mitigation measures along McDougall Creek; and,  
**THAT** Council agree to amend the 2024 to 2028 Financial Plan, as may be required, to reflect grant funding; and,  
**THAT** Council authorize the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to execute the required contribution agreement, in the event of a successful application.

**Alternate Recommendation** to Consider and Resolve:

**THAT** Council direct staff to withdraw the application to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund.

**REVIEWED BY**

Warren Everton, Director of Finance/CFO

Trevor Seibel, Deputy CAO/Deputy Corporate Officer

**APPROVED FOR THE AGENDA BY**

Ron Bowles, Chief Administrative Officer

PowerPoint: Yes  No