



COUNCIL REPORT
Financial Services
For the April 28, 2020 Special Council Meeting

DATE: March 30, 2020
TO: Paul Gipps, CAO
FROM: Lisa Siavashi, Financial Services Manager
RE: 2020 Sterile Insect Release Parcel Tax Bylaw

The Parcel Tax bylaw is required at this time to finalize funding and taxation and to meet provincially legislated deadlines.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

THAT Council give first, second and third readings to the “City of West Kelowna Sterile Insect Release Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 0276, 2020”; and, as permitted under the Province of BC Order of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General (Ministerial Order No. M083);

THAT Council adopt the “City of West Kelowna Sterile Insect Release Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 0276, 2020”.

BACKGROUND:

The Sterile Insect Release (SIR) Program was launched in 1992 with an initial goal of eradicating the codling moth in the program area. While the goal of eradication has been modified to the “control of the codling moth populations to manageable levels”, the program continues to receive the support of four of the five original regional districts both politically and financially.

The SIR program is funded through two means:

- 1) An annual tax levy on the assessed value of land; and,
- 2) A parcel tax levy on all parcels of land that are in apple and/or pear production.

Bylaw No. 0276 will set the parcel tax to be levied per acre of apple and/or pear trees within the City of West Kelowna.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The parcel tax set by SIR on all parcels of land that are in apple and/or pear production has been \$139.26 per planted acre since 2010. The total amount of the parcel tax levy for West Kelowna for 2020 is \$10,338.66, which is down from \$13,258.94 in 2019 due to changes in the number and size of the parcels in the SIR parcel tax roll. There are no direct financial implications for the City of West Kelowna as the requisition is from another taxing authority (RDCO).

ALTERNATE MOTION

THAT Council NOT give first, second and third readings to the “City of West Kelowna Sterile Insect Release Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 0276, 2020”.

Implications: if cancelled, the City would still be responsible to the RDCO for the costs of the program, which would have a substantial impact on the budget.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

Warren Everton, Director of Finance/CFO
Tracey Batten, Deputy CAO/Corporate Officer
Paul Gipps, CAO

Powerpoint: Yes ☐ No ☒

Attachments: Bylaw #276, 2020
Schedule A