



To: Public Works and Transportation Committee **Date:** April 25, 2023
From: John Irving, P.Eng. MPA **File:** 10-6060-04-01/2023-Vol 01
 General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
Re: **2023 Submission to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund – Richmond Flood Protection Program**

Staff Recommendations

1. That the submission to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund – Richmond Flood Protection Program requesting funding for up to 40% of the project cost, for a total of \$35,600,000 to upgrade approximately 4.6 kilometers of dike and the No. 6 Road North Drainage Pump Station be endorsed.
2. That the Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager, Engineering and Public Works be authorized to enter into funding agreements with the Government of Canada for the above mentioned project should it be approved for funding by the Government of Canada; and
3. That, should the above mentioned project be approved for funding by the Government of Canada, the Consolidated 5 Year Financial Plan (2023-2027) be amended accordingly.

John Irving, P.Eng. MPA
 General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
 (604-276-4140)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Intergovernmental Relations & Protocol Unit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

The Disaster Mitigation and Adaption Fund was established by Infrastructure Canada in 2018 to invest in structural and natural infrastructure projects. This program is intended for projects that help local governments and communities address current and future infrastructure needs while strengthening overall resilience to future environmental hazards caused by the adverse effects of climate change through investments in infrastructure projects.

The City of Richmond submitted an Expression of Interest in July 2018 for the Richmond Flood Protection Program and was invited to submit a grant application in October 2018. The City has been awarded \$13,780,000 of grant funding from this application.

In January 2023, Infrastructure Canada announced that applications for new projects were being accepted. The application deadline is July 19, 2023. The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement on the submission to the Infrastructure Canada Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund 2023 intake for grant funding for up to 40% of the \$89 million project cost, for a total of \$35.6 million of grant funding. The project involves upgrading approximately 4.6 kilometers of dike and the No. 6 Road North Drainage Pump Station as part of the City's critical flood protection system.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #2 Strategic and Sustainable Community Growth:

Strategic and sustainable growth that supports long-term community needs and a well-planned and prosperous city.

2.1 Ensure that Richmond's targeted OCP update shapes the direction and character of the city.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.

3.1 Advance proactive, sustainable, and accelerated flood protection in collaboration with other governments and agencies.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #4 Responsible Financial Management and Governance:

4.4 Work with all levels of governments for grant and funding opportunities.

Analysis

Richmond is an island city situated in a floodplain that is approximately one metre above mean sea level and protected by 49 kilometers of dikes and 39 drainage pump stations. Richmond is at risk of flooding as a result of climate change-induced sea level rise. Current climate change guidelines adopted by the Province estimate that the sea level will rise approximately 1 metre by the year 2100, and 0.2 metres of land subsidence is forecasted over the same period.

Flood risks continue to become a greater concern for future years due to climate impacts on rainfall, freshet, and sea level rise. Guided by the City's Flood Protection Management Strategy and the various phases of the Dike Master Plan, Richmond continues to safeguard the people, and its estimated \$100 billion worth of assets by upgrading and maintaining the City's robust flood protection system through the Council approved Capital Program for diking and drainage and development partnerships.

The Richmond Flood Protection Program, submitted by staff to Infrastructure Canada for the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund, includes four infrastructure projects for the perimeter dike to upgrade approximately 4.6 kilometers of dike and the No. 6 Road North Drainage Pump Station with a total amount of \$89 million. All projects are expected to be completed by 2033.

Funding Details

The Disaster Mitigation and Adaption Fund was established in 2018, with a commitment to invest \$2 billion over 10 years in structural and natural infrastructure projects, and an additional \$1.375 billion in federal funding was provided to renew the Disaster Mitigation and Adaption Fund in 2021. The fund is a part of the Investing in Canada Plan to support the Government of Canada's objectives to create long-term economic growth, support the resilience of communities, and transition to a clean growth economy. The fund operates through a maximum Federal contribution of 40% of project cost towards municipal infrastructure projects.

If the City of Richmond is successful through this grant application, the City would be required to enter into a funding agreement with the Government of Canada. Infrastructure Canada will provide funding through disbursements for the projects identified as part of the program. The agreements are standard form agreements provided by senior levels of government and include an indemnity and release in favour of the Federal Government. As with any submission for funding to external sources, funding is not guaranteed to be granted to assist with this project.

Financial Impact

The City of Richmond will be requesting up to \$35.6 million to fund the Richmond Flood Protection Program from the Infrastructure Canada Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.

The grant application includes future years capital projects to be completed within the next 10 years. Should the City be successful with the DMAF grant application, the grant will reduce the contributions from the Drainage Improvement Reserve of the existing approved capital projects, and the Consolidated 5-Year Financial Plan (2023-2027) will be amended accordingly. Any

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future years capital projects will be presented for Council's consideration as part of the annual budget process.

Conclusion

Staff are seeking Council's endorsement on the submission to the Infrastructure Canada Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund for the Richmond Flood Protection Program. Richmond is requesting up to the maximum grant amount of 40% funding for this project for a total of \$35.6 million.



Eric Sparolin, P.Eng.
Manager, Engineering Planning
(604-247-4915)

ES: