



To: General Purposes Committee **Date:** September 21, 2020
From: Milton Chan, P.Eng. **File:** 10-6060-01/2020-Vol
 Director, Engineering 01
Re: **UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2020/2021 Application**

Staff Recommendation

1. That the Box Culvert Repair project submission to the 2020 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Structural Flood Mitigation be endorsed; and
2. That, should the submission be successful, the Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager, Engineering and Public Works be authorized to negotiate and execute the funding agreement with UBCM.

Milton Chan, P.Eng.
 Director, Engineering
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REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Intergovernmental Relations Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	 <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/>
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:	APPROVED BY CAO
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Staff Report

Origin

On May 29, 2019, the Province announced \$31 million in grant allocation for the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF). UBCM administers the CEPF to provide grant funding for partners to plan and implement structural flood protection projects in British Columbia.

There are a number of different funding streams in this program. Under the Structural Flood Mitigation category, staff are preparing an application for Box Culvert Repair. Major repairs to existing flood protection works or flood conveyance works (e.g. culverts) are eligible for funding.

The application guidelines state that projects must be endorsed by Council to be considered for funding. Staff are requesting Council's endorsement for this project submission to the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund.

This report supports the following strategies within Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022:

Strategy #1 A Safe and Resilient City:

Enhance and protect the safety and well-being of Richmond.

1.2 Future-proof and maintain city infrastructure to keep the community safe.

Strategy #5 Sound Financial Management:

Accountable, transparent, and responsible financial management that supports the needs of the community into the future.

5.1 Maintain a strong and robust financial position.

5.4 Work cooperatively and respectfully with all levels of government and stakeholders while advocating for the best interests of Richmond.

Analysis

There are approximately 585 kilometers of drainage pipe and 61 kilometers of box culvert owned and maintained by the City. The drainage network collects storm water throughout the City and discharges it directly to the Fraser River.

The scope of work for this project includes, but is not limited to, the repair and rehabilitation of the No. 4 Road box culvert between Blundell Road and Granville Avenue. Repair work will include filling of voids and separated joints, sealing of cracks and grouting of walls, floors and any infiltration areas.

Completion of the Box Culvert Repair project will reduce flood risk, increase flood protection and minimize potential flood damage. This project corresponds with the City's Flood Protection Management Strategy, which identifies the requirement for an integrated physical flood

protection approach as a top priority. There are two box culvert projects which were previously approved by Council. These were the 2020 Box Culvert Repair capital account (\$1,000,000) and the 2018 Box Culvert Repair capital account (\$1,500,000).

Staff reviewed Council approved projects in order to choose a project that met the grant program guidelines. These projects were chosen as they are shovel ready, with a detailed budget and will be completed within a 2 year timeline, both of which are requirements in the technical review process for this grant. The remaining, shovel ready, structural flood mitigation projects are already provincially and/or federally grant funded.

The UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund can contribute up to 100% of the project costs, to a maximum of \$750,000. The estimated cost to complete the box culvert repair between Blundell Road and Granville Avenue is \$1,740,000. Should the City be awarded the UBCM grant, the funding for the two respective capital projects will be amended, the original funding will be returned to their respective source and the 5 Year Financial Plan will be amended accordingly.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

The Union of BC Municipalities has requested funding applications from local governments for emergency preparedness activities to reduce flood risk through the construction of structural flood mitigation projects. Staff recommend that Council endorse the Structural Flood Mitigation Project for grant funding in accordance with grant program guidelines. Staff are also seeking Council authority for the negotiation and execution of funding agreements should the City's application be successful.



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