



To: General Purposes Committee **Date:** April 14, 2020
From: Cecilia Achiam, **File:** 09-5126-01/2020-Vol
 General Manager, Community Safety 01
Re: **UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund**

Staff Recommendation

1. That the application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for up to \$25,000 in grant funding to support Emergency Support Services for the City of Richmond be endorsed;
2. That the application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for up to \$25,000 in grant funding to support Emergency Operations Centres & Training for the City of Richmond be endorsed;
3. That the application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for up to \$25,000 in grant funding to support Evacuation Route Planning for the City of Richmond be endorsed;
4. That should the funding application be successful, the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Manager, Community Safety be authorized to execute the agreements on behalf of the City of Richmond with the UBCM; and
5. That should the funding application be successful, the 2020-2024 Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw be adjusted accordingly.

Cecilia Achiam
General Manager, Community Safety
(604-276-4122)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
REVIEWED BY SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

Staff are seeking Council endorsement for an application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) for grant funding to build local Emergency Support Services (ESS) and Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) capacity and embark on further Evacuation Route Planning. The UBCM requires council endorsement of grant funding applications before final approval is given. Current 2020 application deadlines for February and March are extended until May 25, 2020 while pending Council endorsement.

Analysis

An EOC is an environment where City representatives and response agency representatives gather during an emergency to coordinate response, recovery and resources while also supporting response personnel in the field and coordinating all official communications regarding the emergency. If the application for this grant funding is successful, the \$25,000 will purchase new equipment for EOC operations and provide staff with related emergency operations training. City staff continuously train and exercise to build and maintain capacity for a coordinated response through EOC operations.

The City of Richmond faces the reality that following a catastrophic event City facilities and services may be disrupted and/or compromised, thus hindering the City's ability to effectively and efficiently provide Emergency Support Services (ESS). The current service delivery model is tethered and solely dependent on City infrastructure including City facilities such as community centres and IT systems. If the application for this grant funding is successful, the \$25,000 will enhance the mobility and modernization of ESS registration and evacuee services by introducing a online service system.

Efficient and safe evacuation routes are needed for the movement of people, livestock and personal property from an area of imminent or actual threat to an area of safety. Successful and detailed planning is the key to effectively execute evacuations when an event occurs in consideration of the various modes of transportation. If the application for this grant funding is successful, the \$25,000 will enhance the City's Evacuation Route Planning by hiring a consultant and update signage.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

As part of the submission process, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities requires Council to endorse the application for funding. This project aligns with the City's goals and vision and is well positioned to receive funding through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund given the program criteria and the expected results of the project if program funding remains available. Staff recommend the endorsement of the applications to the CEPF for grant funding.



Norman Kotze
Program Manager, Emergency Planning
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NK:cp