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**REPORT TO SSI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
MEETING OF MONDAY, JULY 25, 2022**

ISSUE SPEED READER BOARDS

BACKGROUND

During the special meeting of the Transportation Commission on June 21st, 2022, the Commission recommended funding for the acquisition and installation of speed reader boards (SRB) in the Five Year Capital Plan. Staff have included an estimated amount in the 2023 – 2027 Capital Plan with the funds therefore becoming available in March of 2023. At the Transportation Commission meeting on June 27th, 2022, the Commission made speed reader boards their top priority.

Staff have investigated and located a supplier of solar powered speed reader boards complete with battery backup which are far less costly than options considered in previously. Staff have made preliminary enquiries with Emcon Services Inc., the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI), and who are willing to install the mounting posts for the speed reader boards. CRD staff will need to apply for a permit from MoTI to locate and install the speed reader boards on MoTI right of way locations. The Commission has identified five (5) locations for the boards which are:

- Cusheon Lake Road
- North End Road
- Lower Ganges Road at Baker Road
- Lower Ganges Road near Country Grocer
- Fulford – Ganges Road near Embe Bakery

In general, ICBC supports speed reader boards on the approach to communities where speed is identified as problematic. The locations are to be assessed by MoTI and the CRD to determine if speed reader boards are warranted. Staff submitted a grant application to ICBC in the amount of \$2,500 per board, which upon analysis, ICBC increased to \$4,240 per board, and this amount is reflected in the section below. ICBC has expressed acceptance and verbal/e-mail approval of the grant application.

When considering speed reader boards, specifications are governed by the MoTI Traffic & Electrical Manual, Section 410.2. Speed reader boards are typically used at speed transition zones such as where traffic speed is reduced from 70 to 50. Justification for a speed board must be provided for each proposed location. Justification could be in the form of data from a speed camera, accident reports or visual observation. If approved by MoTI, MoTI coordinates the installation of the speed reader boards.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

PROJECT COST	Amount
Five (5) Sierzega Model GR33CL Speed Reader Boards c/w Solar Panel and Battery Backup @ \$7,000 each	\$35,000
Installation material including galvanized metal posts and foundations	\$5,000
Installation labour	\$5,000
Programming of Speed Reader Boards	\$2,500

Contingency at 10%	\$4,750
CRD Project Management and Administration at 10%	\$5,225
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$57,475
PROJECT FUNDING	
	Amount
ICBC Grant @ \$4,240 per SRB	\$21,200
Capital Reserve Fund (CRF)	\$36,275
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING	\$57,475

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board that the Salt Spring Island Transportation Service 2022 Capital Plan be amended to include a project for the acquisition and installation of five (5) speed reader boards with the total project budget of \$57,475, funded from ICBC Grant (\$21,200) and Capital Reserve Fund (\$36,275).

Alternative 2

That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission refer back to staff for additional information.

CONCLUSION

The balance in the Transportation Commission Capital Reserve Fund (\$288,960) has sufficient funds available to acquire and install five (5) speed reader boards at the locations identified by the Transportation Commission. Traffic speed and its reduction has been identified as a top priority by the Transportation Commission and these SRBs will ameliorate the situation and positively contribute to traffic calming in and around Ganges and surrounding areas.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional District Board that the Salt Spring Island Transportation Service 2022 Capital Plan be amended to include a project for the acquisition and installation of five (5) speed reader boards with the total project budget of \$57,475, funded from ICBC Grant (\$21,200) and Capital Reserve Fund (\$36,275).

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