

**REPORT TO SALT SPRING ISLAND TRANSPORTION COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020**

SUBJECT **Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Application 2020/21**

ISSUE SUMMARY

To seek support to submit an Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant application for Phase 2 of the Lower Ganges Road – Booth Canal to Vesuvius Bay Road pathway project.

BACKGROUND

The Capital Regional District received grants from the Salt Spring Island Foundation and Community Works Funds to complete Phase 1 of the Lower Ganges Road – Booth Canal to Vesuvius Bay Road pathway project. These grants totaling in the amount of \$300,000 have assisted in the CRD developing a portion of the pathway project that fall within this funding limit. The project was split into to two phases until additional funding became available to complete the remaining portion. The second phase requires an additional funding of \$700,000. The CRD may pursue 70% of eligible funding (\$490,000) through the Active Transportation Infrastructure grant 2020/21 intake being accepted until February 20, 2020.

The project aligns with the Active Transportation Infrastructure grant criteria to improve:

1. Safety
2. Community connectivity
3. Continuity between existing or planned transportation corridors
4. Linkages to public transit, ferries, airports
5. Local economic opportunities
6. Tourism
7. Partnerships between neighboring jurisdictions
8. Physical health
9. Mental health

Staff propose phase 2 of Lower Ganges Road – Booth Canal to Vesuvius Bay Road pathway be submitted for the Active Transportation Infrastructure grant funding. This project will complete major pathway link connecting residents and visitors to the downtown business core, school, hospitals, and access the islands main sports fields, tennis courts, golf course, churches, and movie theatre. A board motion is required as part of the application process.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

The Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends that the Electoral Areas Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That approval be given to submit a 2020 Active Transportation Infrastructure grant application for

Phase 2 of the Lower Ganges Road – Booth Canal to Vesuvius Bay Road pathway project.

Alternative 2

The Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission refer back to staff to evaluate a different project for possible submission for the Active Transportation Infrastructure grant for the next intake.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

The project is in the 5 year capital plan and there are sufficient funds of \$210,000 in reserves to match the applicant's share of the total estimated project costs.

The project is in alignment with the Board priority for community wellbeing – transportation and housing initiative to work with government/community partners to plan for and deliver an effective, long-term regional multi-modal transportation system and to increase use of public transit, walking and cycling.

CONCLUSION

The CRD has been working with Islands Pathway, a local island volunteer group who advocate and contribute their time in planning and constructing pathways to improve safe active transportation options on Salt Spring Island. Recently Island Pathways was successful in obtaining a \$100,000 grant for phase 1. Phase 2 of the project is an outstanding section and the anticipated cost to complete this section is \$700,000. The CRD has \$210,000 in reserves to allocate their share of the contribution for the project costs.

RECOMMENDATION

The Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends that the Electoral Areas Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That approval be given to submit a 2020 Active Transportation Infrastructure grant application for Phase 2 of the Lower Ganges Road – Booth Canal to Vesuvius Bay Road pathway project.

Submitted by:	Karla Campbell, BPA, Senior Manager, Salt Spring Island Administration
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

Appendix A: Project Area: Lower Ganges Road – Booth Canal to Vesuvius Bay Road Pathway