

**REPORT TO CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021**

SUBJECT Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program; COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream [Regional Parks Service]

ISSUE SUMMARY

A Capital Regional District (CRD) Board resolution is required for grant applications to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP); COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS).

BACKGROUND

On December 1, 2020, BC and Canada announced the intake of the CVRIS stream to support infrastructure projects in response to COVID-19. For this stream, the program has \$80.29M available in funding for eligible projects.

Regional Districts (RD) are an eligible recipient under the grant program. RD are permitted to submit one application for a regional/sub-regional service, and one application from each Electoral Area (EA).

Funding is available for 100% of eligible project costs, with 80% of funding from the Government of Canada and 20% from the province. Projects must start by September 30, 2021, and be completed by December 31, 2021.

Eligible projects may include:

1. Retrofits, repairs, and upgrades;
2. Active transportation;
3. COVID-19 response infrastructure; and
4. Disaster mitigation and adaption infrastructure (excluding flood mitigation¹).

Applications for CVRIS were due January 27, 2021 and must be supported by a Board resolution. Staff identified and submitted one regional project for the grant program's consideration (see Appendix A). Applicants will be notified of the grant program's outcome in late spring 2021. Additional information and grant history on past ICIP applications are summarized in Appendix B.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Capital Regional District Board support the submitted application, as endorsed in the following resolution:

That the Capital Regional District Board (the Board) endorse the grant application for the Regional Parks Service: Galloping Goose Bridge Replacements & Repair Project through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure

¹ Flood mitigation projects were eligible under the sub-stream under ICIP-CVRIS: Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation, which had an application deadline of January 11, 2021.

Program; and that the Board supports the project and commits to any associated ineligible costs and cost overruns.

Alternative 2

The Capital Regional District Board recommends:

That the Board does not endorse the submitted grant application for the Regional Parks Service: Galloping Goose Bridge Replacements & Repair Project to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream, and withdraws the project for the funding program's consideration.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

The proposed project is included in the Regional Parks service 2021 Capital Plan.

Table 1 – Grant Applications Submitted

SERVICE PARTICIPANT	SERVICE NAME	PROJECT	REQUEST (\$)	INELIGIBLE COSTS (CRD CONTRIBUTION)	TOTAL PROJECT COST	APPENDIX
Regional	Regional Parks	Galloping Goose Bridge Replacements & Repair	\$1,000,000	\$125,000	\$1,125,000	A

The grant will fund \$1M of eligible expenses. The service is proposing to use their Capital Reserve Fund to fund the ineligible expenses of \$125,000. Currently, the project budgeted in the Capital Plan is lower than the grant request. Work will need to be prioritized in the plan, or the scope of the project will have to be reduced, if funding for this project is not secured through the grant. However, the project is not contingent upon grant approval.

CONCLUSION

The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program provides funding to public infrastructure projects in BC. This new stream was developed in an effort to provide immediate funding to eligible recipients, including local governments, to help address the impacts of COVID-19, and fund other infrastructure projects. Factors that impact successful grant applications include availability of funds and their equitable distribution across the province as well as program alignment. The CRD has prioritized its projects at each service level.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Capital Regional District Board support the submitted application, as endorsed in the following resolution:

That the Capital Regional District Board (the Board) endorse the grant application for the Regional Parks Service: Galloping Goose Bridge Replacements & Repair Project through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Program; and that the Board supports the project and commits to any associated ineligible costs and cost overruns.

Submitted by:	Lia Xu, MSc., CPA, CGA, Finance Manager, Local Services
Concurrence:	Rianna Lachance, BCom, CPA, CA, Acting Chief Financial Officer
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

Appendix A: Galloping Goose Bridge Replacements & Repair Project

Appendix B: Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program Funding History