



STAFF REPORT TO COMMITTEE

DATE OF REPORT May 12, 2021

MEETING TYPE & DATE Regional Services Committee Meeting of May 26, 2021

FROM: Environmental Services Division
Engineering Services Department

SUBJECT: 2021 Budget Amendments – Cowichan and Chemainus Flood Management

FILE: 1720-20

PURPOSE/INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to amend the 2021 Budget to recognize federal and provincial grant funding for flood mapping along with the Municipality of North Cowichan's portion of the funding for development of an integrated flood management strategy for the Chemainus River.

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION

That it be recommended to the Board:

1. That the 2021 Budget for Function 530 Cowichan Flood Management be amended to:
 1. Increase Provincial Conditional Grants revenue by \$24,535;
 2. Increase Federal Conditional Grants revenue by \$24,535; and
 3. Increase Project Expenditures by \$49,070.
2. That the 2021 Budget for Function 131 Environmental Initiatives be amended to:
 1. Increase Partner Contributions revenue by \$100,000; and
 2. Increase Partnership Project expenses by \$100,000.
3. That the 2021 Budget for Function 131 Environmental Initiatives be amended to:
 1. Increase Provincial Conditional Grants revenue by \$236,500;
 2. Increase Federal Conditional Grants revenue by \$236,500; and
 3. Increase Partnership Project expenses by \$473,000.

BACKGROUND

Cowichan

The Cowichan / Koksilah Updated Flood Mapping Project began in 2019 and was originally scheduled to be completed by May of 2020. Delivery delays and quality issues with LiDAR data from GeoBC led to delays and cost increases in the project schedule. In the fall of 2020, Emergency Management BC (EMBC) approached the CVRD with funding through the National Disaster Mitigation Program for an extension to cover some of the cost overruns for the flood mapping project.

Chemainus

The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) is leading the development of an integrated flood management strategy for the Chemainus River in partnership with the Municipality of North Cowichan and Halalt First Nation. The CVRD has applied for funding for the flood mapping component of this project through the National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP), however we are still waiting for formalization of funding arrangements. A number of other initiatives are underway concurrently, including potential sediment removal in the lower river, which could benefit from a prompt start to initial survey activities.

ANALYSIS

Cowichan

The CVRD's application for an NDMP extension grant in the amount of \$49,070 for the Cowichan Flood Mapping project was successful. A budget amendment will be required to recognize these funds in the 2021 budget for Function 530 Cowichan Flood Management. The increase to project expenditures will support the development of asset management plans for the Cowichan River dikes.

Chemainus

Both North Cowichan and the CVRD have committed \$100,000 towards the development of the strategy. The CVRD's contribution was included in the 2021 budget; however, in order to move forward with the initial project work, an amendment to the Function 131 Environmental Initiatives budget is required to include North Cowichan's contribution. The scope of the initial work will include topographic surveys and development of topographic, hydrologic, and hydraulic models for the Chemainus and Bonsall Creek floodplains.

Should the grant application be successful, the additional amendment to the Function 131 Environmental Initiatives budget will expand the scope of work to include flood mapping and the development of the flood management strategy. If no grant funding is received, these subsequent phases of the work would be delayed and the additional expenditures would not proceed; however, the models developed in the initial phase of the project will provide the basis for future mapping as well as providing valuable inputs to concurrent projects underway in the Chemainus floodplain.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There is no impact to the requisition as the increased expenditures are covered by the grant and partnership funding.

COMMUNICATION CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC/BUSINESS PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation addresses the Regional Strategic Focus Area #3 Protect our Communities from the adverse impacts of Climate Change.

GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

☐ Not Applicable

Referred to (upon completion):

- ☐ Communications & Engagement
- ☐ Community Services *(Cowichan Community Centre, Cowichan Lake Recreation, South Cowichan Recreation, Arts & Culture, Emergency Management, Facilities & Transit)*
- ☐ Corporate Services *(Finance, Human Resources, Legislative Services, Information Technology, Procurement)*
- ☐ Engineering Services *(Environmental Services, Recycling & Waste Management, Water Management)*
- ☐ Land Use Services *(Community Planning, Development Services, Inspection & Enforcement, Economic Development, Parks & Trails)*

Prepared by:

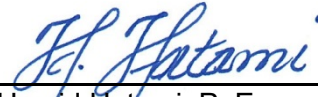


Jeff Moore, MRM
Senior Environmental Analyst

Reviewed by:



Kate Miller, RPP, MCIP, LEED AP
Manager



Hamid Hatami, P. Eng.
General Manager

Reviewed for form and content and approved for submission to the Committee:

Resolution:

☒ Manager, Legislative Services

Financial Considerations:

☒ Manager, Finance

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A –

Attachment B –