



STAFF REPORT TO COMMITTEE

DATE OF REPORT April 8, 2022

MEETING TYPE & DATE Electoral Area Services Committee Meeting of May 4, 2022

FROM: Emergency Management Division
Community Services Department

SUBJECT: Budget Amendments for Functions 350, 351, 354, 355, 357, 358 – Fire Protection (COVID Recovery Grant)

FILE:

PURPOSE/INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to request an amendment to the 2022 Budget for Functions 350, 351, 354, 355, 357, 358 – Fire Protection, to purchase gear extractors for each firehall using a COVID-19 Restart Funding Plan and operating reserves.

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION

That it be recommended to the Board:

1. That the 2022 Budget for Function 350 – Fire Protection North Oyster be amended to:
 - a. Increase transfer from operating reserve - \$3,140; and
 - b. Increase furniture, fixtures, equipment expense - \$3,140.
2. That the 2022 Budget for Function 351 – Fire Protection Mesachie Lake be amended to:
 - a. Increase transfer from operating reserve - \$1,660; and
 - b. Increase furniture, fixtures, equipment expense - \$1,660.
3. That the 2022 Budget for Function 354 – Fire Protection Sahtlam be amended to:
 - a. Increase transfer from operating reserve - \$1,660; and
 - b. Increase furniture, fixtures, equipment expense - \$1,660.
4. That the 2022 Budget for Function 355 – Fire Protection Malahat be amended to:
 - a. Increase transfer from operating reserve - \$1,660; and
 - b. Increase furniture, fixtures, equipment expense - \$1,660.
5. That the 2022 Budget for Function 357 – Fire Protection Honeymoon Bay be amended to:
 - a. Increase transfer from operating reserve - \$3,140; and
 - b. Increase furniture, fixtures, equipment expense - \$3,140.
6. That the 2022 Budget for Function 358 – Fire Protection Youbou be amended to:
 - a. Increase transfer from operating reserve - \$1,660; and
 - b. Increase furniture, fixtures, equipment expense - \$1,660.

BACKGROUND

Occupational exposure to known carcinogens is one of the leading causes of cancer and death amongst firefighters. Known routes of exposure include the respiratory tract and contact through the skin. Research has shown that by eliminating products of combustion (soot, chemicals, and toxins) by decontamination at the incident scene and further decontamination of bunker gear through effective laundering reduces the risk of absorption of toxins through the skin.

In 2021, a need was identified to purchase gear extractors (washers) for each of the six CVRD firehalls. The Board subsequently approved the COVID-19 Restart Funding Plan, which provided funding to offset the cost of purchasing these gear extractors. Each fire department's operating reserves is proposed be used to offset the cost of purchasing gear extractors (washers).

ANALYSIS

In 2022, the Emergency Management Division in conjunction with procurement, solicited bids for pricing, supply, delivery, and installation of six gear extractors for the six CVRD fire departments. A vendor was selected, and based on individual departmental needs, four smaller gear extractors and two larger gear extractors were selected.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Through a competitive bid process, the price of the gear extractors came in over the budgeted cost of the COVID-19 Restart Funding Plan allotment of \$ 7,300 per unit. The four smaller gear extractors cost \$ 8,960 each (a difference of \$ 1,660), and the two larger units cost \$ 10,440 each (a difference of \$ 3,140).

To offset the difference in the increased unit costs, this request is being made to transfer funds from operating reserve Functions:

- \$1,660 each from Functions 351, 354, 355, 358
- \$3,140 each from Functions 350, 357

COMMUNICATION CONSIDERATIONS

N/A

STRATEGIC/BUSINESS PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

N/A

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, Planning – Strategic Initiatives, Development Services, Inspection & Enforcement, Economic Development, Parks & Trails*)

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:



Robb Schouler, B.Sc., CMMIT
Fire Rescue Services Coordinator

Not Applicable
Not Applicable



John Elzinga
General Manager

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

Resolution:

☒ Corporate Officer

Financial Considerations:

☒ Chief Financial Officer

ATTACHMENTS: