



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: December 8, 2014
Contact: Kevin McNaney
Contact No.: 604.871.6851
RTS No.: 10776
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: December 17, 2014

TO: Standing Committee on City Finance and Services

FROM: General Manager of Planning and Development Services

SUBJECT: Implementation of the Downtown Eastside (DTES) Plan Through Strategic DTES Capital Grants

RECOMMENDATION

THAT City Council approve the grant allocation of \$955,814 to DTES non-profit organizations (as detailed in Appendix A) to strategically advance the social, economic and environmental objectives of the recently approved DTES Plan; source of funds is the multi-year Capital budget for the DTES.

REPORT SUMMARY

Council approved the DTES Plan in March 2014 setting out the policies, strategies and quick start/short term actions needed to achieve the long term vision that *“the neighbourhood will be made up of mixed-income communities with a range of affordable housing options (including social housing) for all residents, local serving commerce, social services and cultural activities where all feel welcome, valued and at home”*.

The proposed capital grants are to be used to broaden implementation efforts to achieve this vision. In this way, City will work with non-profit organisations to improve the lives of the low income residents and revitalise the area without displacing vulnerable residents and valuable community assets.

A total of forty two (42) applications were received and forty (40) are recommended for funding. This report recommends grants be approved for ten (10) projects related to community economic development, twenty seven (27) community asset management initiatives and three (3) projects leading to neighbourhood improvements. Two (2) applications are not recommended for approval.

Projected benefits expected from these capital projects include childcare spaces for 30 children, 50 daily arts and culture radio programs, improved shelter for 60 residents and up to an estimated 605 part time jobs.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- In 2014 Council approved the Downtown Eastside Local Area Plan (DTES Plan and Social Impact Assessment (SIA)); and
- In 2014 Council directed staff to proceed with the implementation of the Plan, including the implementation strategies and action plan described in the Plan.
- In Oct 2014 Council approve the Healthy City Strategy 2014-25
- In Jan 2012 Council received for information the Vancouver Economic Strategy
- In July 2011 Council approved the Greenest City Action Plan 2020
- Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Planning and Development Services recommends APPROVAL of the foregoing.

REPORT

Background/Context

The Downtown Eastside comprises the seven neighbourhoods of Gastown, Victory Square, Chinatown, Oppenheimer District, Thornton Park, Strathcona and the Industrial Lands with mixed income communities.

At least half of the 18,500 residents earn below the estimated median income of \$13,700 per annum (compared to the city wide median of \$47,300). Despite the high level of poverty and vulnerability, the DTES is a very creative, diverse area with close-knit communities, mixed uses, unique heritage assets and cultural amenities. The DTES Plan (approved in March 2014) provides the 30 year vision, strategies and policies needed to achieve a better quality of life for the residents and improved opportunities for businesses and industries.

A significant number of Quick Start and Short Term projects were approved in the DTES Plan (refer to Appendix C) and the proposed grants provide an opportunity to work with various partners in non-profit societies and Business Improvement Associations to implement these projects.

In the past, Council has approved capital funds to support individual initiatives in the Downtown Eastside according to needs identified at the time. Over the last three years, only a limited portion of the approved capital was allocated to urgent projects to allow the staff to focus on the creation of the DTES Plan. The DTES Capital Grants are proposed to implement the Plan in three key priority areas:

- supporting neighbourhood improvements and community building.
- fostering community economic development.
- protecting valuable community assets.

The grants program is designed to build partnerships with non-profit organisations, charities, social enterprises, Societies and Business Improvement Associations to help implement the Quick Starts projects in the DTES Plan. Eligible projects have been chosen if they include at least one of the following criteria as set out in the Guidelines (refer to Appendix D):

Funds requested to be used for expenses

- Associated with building asset improvements, upgrades to premises and/or facades needed to implement the Plan.
- Capital improvement related “soft costs” for feasibility studies, investigations, project management etc. can sometimes be funded to build capacity leading towards capital related improvements.
- Strategic opportunities (where projects have potential for substantial outcomes that meets Council/DTES priorities).
- Movable assets such as machinery, tools, equipment, appliances, etc.

A total of 42 applications were received with 40 applications recommended for approval and 2 not recommended for approval at this time but to be explored further in the future. The applications were reviewed by staff from Social Policy, Social Infrastructure, Housing, Cultural Services, Facilities, Heritage, Vancouver School Board and Park Board. The process was based on the structure used for Social and Cultural Grants evaluation. A matrix consisting of the DTES Plan Social Impact Objectives was used to evaluate whether or not the proposals will help implement the plan. These objectives seek to:

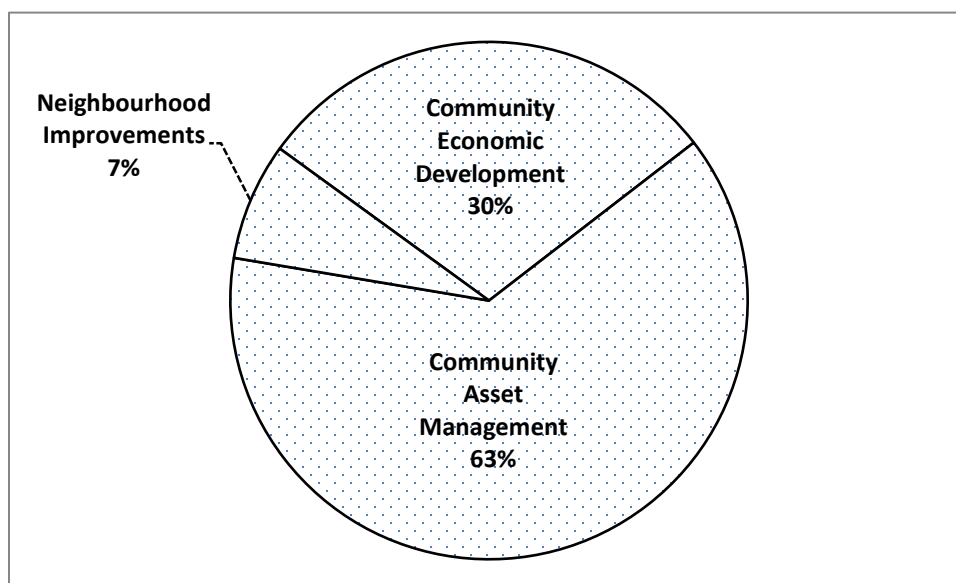
- Ensure that developments and businesses fit the DTES neighbourhood context, offer needed, locally-serving uses, and do not significantly exclude or negatively impact the low-income community.
- Encourage a wide range of housing options in the neighbourhood, with a particular focus on new and improved social and affordable housing for the homeless and other low- and moderate-income singles and families.
- Ensure diverse development that is respectful of heritage assets, surrounding scale, urban pattern, and social and community context.
- Improve the overall quality, accessibility and inclusiveness of the public realm in the DTES, recognizing the uniqueness of each sub-area.
- Maintain diversity of existing businesses and commercial uses and support affordable commercial spaces for social enterprises, micro enterprises and small businesses providing low-cost goods and services for residents.
- Encourage the use of local goods and services in the construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed development or business.
- Encourage local and inclusive hiring in the construction, operation and maintenance phases of the improvement and the strengthening of social and micro economies.
- Maintain adequate health and social services within the community, as well as community amenity and gathering spaces to serve the needs of the diverse local population.
- Retain, preserve and celebrate local heritage, arts and culture for all.

Strategic Analysis

The DTES Capital Grants Program presents a strategic opportunity to implement the DTES Local Area Plan in three key priority areas identified in the planning process: fostering community economic development; protecting community assets; and neighbourhood improvement and community building.

The grants recommended in this report align with Council priorities and strategies, in particular Healthy City Strategy, Greenest City and the Vancouver Economic Action Strategy. The grants focus mostly on the Healthy City Strategy, an inspirational strategy for all residents of Vancouver, particularly to the diverse neighbourhoods of the DTES. This strategy aspires to the vision of a “Healthy City for All” through three focus areas of “Healthy People” (taking care of basics) “Healthy Communities” (cultivating connections) and “Healthy Environments” (ensuring liveability now and into the future).

The recommended grant applications are summarized on the next page (for more detailed description of each project - see Appendix A)



Summary Table I: DTES Capital grants recommended

Funding Area	Objectives	Number of Grants	Total Funding
Community Economic Development	A vibrant and inclusive economy through Community Economic Development	10	\$282,368
Community Asset Management	Retention and improvement of valuable assets identified in the SIA	27	\$603,146
Neighbourhood Improvements	Improvements to the neighbourhood places and spaces for community wellbeing, safety and walkability	3	\$70,300
Total		40	\$955,814

The DTES Capital grants will also support partnerships to build capacity, leverage additional matching funding (at least 50%) through sourcing other funds. Other funding partnerships include the Heritage Building Rehabilitation Program and Heritage Facade grants, the Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Upgrading Program and various Social and Cultural Grant Programs. In certain cases, external funders (including various foundations and other government

departments and agencies) have agreed to provide matching funding. All projects will be monitored regularly and the matching funds leveraged for each application will be confirmed before the final grant is released.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)

Financial

Recommendation A seeks approval for forty (40) grants amounting to a total of \$955,814. Source of funds is the multi-year Capital Budget for the DTES.

Once the grants have been approved by Council, A Letter of Understanding will be signed between the applicants and the City of Vancouver outlining the terms, conditions, budget, and grant release details including confirmation of leveraged funds.

CONCLUSION

The grants and funding recommendations in this report align with the policy objectives of the DTES Plan and will help the City to address its priorities of fostering community economic development; protecting community assets; and neighbourhood improvement and community building. These projects will assist greatly in implementing various Quick Start and Short Term projects identified as priorities in the DTES Plan.

* * * * *

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
1	First United Church Community Ministry Society	Replace a 50 year old boiler system with an energy efficient system to allow better service to the marginalized people	Energy saved -\$13,000/yr will contribute to the organization's long-term environmental and financial sustainability to serve the marginalized people who reside in their low-barrier shelter.	Well Being (A1, A2)	\$50,000	\$50,000	
2	Atira Women's Resource Society	Provide office equipment and retail fittings to Enterprising Women Making Art social enterprise to their new retail + artist studio.	An increase in local employment opportunities for marginalized women to sell and market their skills and products. Strong benefit to the community through social/local enterprise	Well Being (A3), Economy (C8,C10) Arts & Culture (D2)	\$3,373	\$3,373	
3	Providing Alternatives Counselling and Education (Pace) Society	Due to the potential loss of the current space, relocation Feasibility Study to identify a new space to continue to support sex workers in the DTES is requested.	Maintain a critical social asset in the community to continue to provide front line services to their members and critical support services to sex workers.	Well Being (A1, A3)	\$10,000	\$10,000	
4	UBC Learning Exchange	Purchase of tools for their new space to expand programs for carving and art activities associated with the organizational objectives of learning and inclusion.	Community creative work space for DTES vulnerable citizens with the purchase of the tools and equipments.	Well Being (A1,A3) Arts & Culture (D2)	\$5,000	\$5,000	

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
5	Gallery Gachet Society	Gallery updates are needed to the lighting within the gallery space. The space improvements will enable the gallery to provide a higher quality experience for its guests and people from marginalized communities who are served by the gallery.	Low-income community members are included and facilitate improved local employment opportunities through an improved front-of-house.	Well-Being (A1) Economy (C9) Arts & Culture (D1, D2)	\$13,702	\$4,000	Support for lighting upgrade only.
6	Vancouver International Dance Festival Society	Purchasing and installing theatrical lighting, sound systems and computer equipment for Woodward's Production and Atrium studios. Expected to increase visibility of performances in the DTES.	Generally improves the technical abilities of the organization to deliver higher quality performances. Provides DTES community members free performances and workshops.	Well-Being (A3) Economy (C4) Arts & Culture (D2)	\$50,000	\$50,000	Awarding of the funds is conditional upon a signed lease.
7	Kokoro Dance Theatre Society	Purchasing and installation of track, curtain and vinyl dance floor for Woodward's basement production studio and atrium studio to enable them to be functional facilities.	Free performances to DTES community, possible affordable rental rates, and co-location opportunities with other cultural institution. More employment opportunities.	Well-Being (A3) Arts & Culture (D1,D2) Economy (C4)	\$50,000	\$50,000	Awarding of the funds is conditional upon a signed lease.

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
8	Vancouver Cooperative Radio	Upgrades to current studio space including installation of a roof antenna, to broadcast facilities including new carpets, new chairs, new millwork, electronic equipment and wiring to the sound board and to HVAC system.	Directly linked to local content and employment. Improving the health and wellness of those involved in the operations/training at the station	Well-Being (A3) Economy (C3,C10) Arts & Culture (D1,D2)	\$50,000	\$50,000	
9	221a Artist Run Centre Society	Feasibility study to secure tenure/ownership for the 221a Artist Run Centre Society to adapt to rising real estate costs.	Inclusion of the local community in decision making for the project. Organization already carries a strong mandate to include local community in the delivery of its programs.	Well-Being (A3) Economy (C10) Arts & Culture (D1,D2)	\$8,000	\$8,000	
10	Downtown Eastside Skateboard Society	Installation of a neon /LED sign and retractable awning. Will promote the heritage of the site through reactivating the Smiling Buddha Cabaret previously at that location.	A more positive and activated streetscape around the site. Support the heritage of the site through installation of the sign. A safe, inclusive space for youth. Provides affordable food. Supports the local economy through DTES partnerships.	Well-Being (A3) Economy (C3, C9)	\$10,730	\$10,730	Neon sign supported subject to beneficial lease by owner for non-profit Skateboard society

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
11	Downtown Eastside Women's Centre Association	Feasibility study to review current programming and how to increase capacity by identifying both funding and availability of a new location to support a permanent and safe shelter space for women drop-in, support and beds for 24hours a day.	Identify potential sites for relocation to expand their capacity and services to the vulnerable women in the DTES, and also identify potential funding source to achieve their objective.	Well-Being (A1,A2,A3)	\$15,000	\$15,000	
12	Ecotrust Canada (EC)	Developing a co-location space at 425 Carrall Street for at least 10 social enterprises. Expectation that the project will assist in fitting the shared space with furniture, IT infrastructure, and various other capital improvements.	32 employed in first phase, 90 employed in co-working space, 10 non-profits occupying space, 5 locally-owned businesses, 600 approx. total number of businesses and communities served. Utilizes Tradeworks Training Society for desks.	Economy (C8)	\$30,000	\$30,000	
13	Eastside Movement For Business And Economic Renewal Society (Embers)	Develop an integrated software system to streamline operations.	Employ 150 people/week. Will provide employment opportunities to a further 350-400 people per year. Opportunity to employ 50%-70% more people through streamlining.	Economy (C10)	\$49,580	\$49,580	

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
14	The Firehall Theatre Society	Purchase new theatrical equipment, a new projector and portable stage.	Expected to decrease costs of operation and rental of equipment to other community groups. Employs local part-time artists and technicians.	Well-Being (A3) Arts & Culture (D1, D2)	\$6,500	\$6,500	
15	Hastings Crossing Business Improvement Association	Improving public space in the DTES & Pedestrian and built form feasibility study; hanging basket expansion.	Cleaner, safer public spaces in the DTES. Space. Approximately 20 people would be employed on a part-time basis.	Well-Being (A3) Economy (C3) Community Place-making (F2)	\$20,500	\$13,800	Support for hanging flower baskets and stewardship program. Feasibility study to be done later in conjunction with City Engineering
16	Lung Kong Tin Yee Association	Installation/revitalization of Ho Ho Chop Suey neon sign to highlight a new Chinese restaurant	Bring colour and lighting back to Chinatown to reflect the neon history and contribute to making Chinatown an exciting place at night.	Parks and Open Space (E4) Heritage (D7)	\$50,000	\$50,000	
17	Mission Possible Compassionate Ministries Society	Purchase of a hot water pressure washer for social enterprise	Over 100 people finding employment in the past 4 years. Aims to increase this number through this project.	Economy (C9)	\$3,628	\$3,628	

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
18	Powell Street Festival	Feasibility study for co-location space on Powell St between PSFS and the Japanese Canadian community.	Cultivating Japanese-Canadian arts and culture. Increased presence along Powell Street. Potential for 5-10 part time jobs.	Well-Being (A3) Arts & Culture (D4)	\$11,921	\$11,921	
19	Raven Spirit Dance Company	Purchase of furnishings, computers and software for new office space, including the repainting of the office.	Will enable employees to work from updated computers with software owned by RSDC. Creation of a clearer central home base for meetings/physical space.	Arts & Culture (D1,D2, D3)	\$7,000	\$7,000	Awarding of the funds is conditional upon a signed lease.
20	Simpson Community Development Society	Purchase of a new truck to take on more work and increase the number of low barrier local jobs to vulnerable DTES community members	Increased demand for services, generating 10 new positions for people with barriers to employment at about \$480 per month income.	Economy (C9,C10)	\$40,000	\$40,000	
21	St. James' Anglican Church	Repairs to the leaking roof and energy inefficient windows	Improved community space for participants from groups such as St. James Music Academy and Watari Society	Well-being (A1,A2,A3) Arts & Culture (D2)	\$50,000	\$50,000	
22	Strathcona BIA	Work with society owned buildings to improve their signage, storefronts, and street presence to improve their business or fill vacant storefront.	Improvement to building facades and occupied store fronts. This will create community pride and a lively business environment for the Strathcona Business area.	Economy (C3,C10)	\$32,500	\$32,500	Supported for non-profit/society owned premises

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
23	Tradeworks Training Society	Installation of lighting, an electrical panel and outlets for a new training space for the women's workshop program.	Hiring of 3 additional employees and up to 50 DTES women will train to be employed in the trades.	Well-being (A3) Economy (C10)	\$16,450	\$16,450	
24	Urban Ink Production Society	Redesign and equip office to create additional workstations and to allow for multiple users.	A space that will accommodate more artists and staff, and is inclusive and creative for collaborative discussions.	Well-being (A3) Arts+Culture (D2)	\$6,000	\$6,000	
25	Vancouver Moving Theatre	Purchasing of office equipment and production gear to outfit their new community space at Woodward's	Improved and continued production of 150 events and over 45 locations throughout DTES-Heart of the City festival	Well-being (A3) Arts+Culture (D2)	\$34,842	\$34,842	Awarding of the funds is conditional upon a signed lease.
26	Vancouver Women's Health Collective	Renovations to counter space to improve access and mobility in the reception area	Improved clients access to computer stations, increase ability of volunteers to have direct access to secured front door	Well-being (A3) Economy (C10)	\$500	\$500	
27	YWCA	Replacing flooring in the community kitchen, staff office and main entrance to ensure health and safety.	A space that will be safe and healthy, easy to clean and no places to trip or injure themselves.	Well-being (A2,A3) Economy (C10)	\$9,675	\$9,675	DTES Capital funding. Social Policy to oversee implement'n
28	Vancouver Native Health Society	Purchase new educational toys and materials. Install sound absorbing materials.	New educational toys and improved learning centres. Improved sound environment for the child daycare.	Well-being (A2,A3) Economy (C10)	\$44,680	\$22,340	Matching funds to be secured

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
29	Vancouver Japanese Language School and Japanese Hall	Fence enclosure of the children's outdoor daycare playarea.	A safe children's outdoor play space that is open, airy, full of light and free of drug paraphernalia	Well-being (A3)	\$10,000	\$10,000	
30	Yue Shan Society	Painting and façade improvements to this existing long time society building to extend the life of the building.	Beautiful façade that will emphasize one of the long serving society building in Chinatown and improve the historic Pender St. street scape.	Well-being (A3) Heritage (D7)	\$50,000	\$50,000	
31	Strathcona BIA Maker Lab	Purchase of welders, plasma cutters and metal working equipment to expand their operations and services	Additional services to local incubator businesses, artists. Spaces for classes to local youth and community events	Economy (C3) Arts+Culture (D2)	\$46,995	\$46,995	Subject to SBIA owning the equipment
32	East Van Roasters (PHS)	Purchase of winnowing machine and additional equipment to increase chocolate production and job opportunities	Expansion of program will allow an additional 6 to 8 additional 4-hour shifts and skills diversification for women.	Well-Being (A3) Economy (C7,C8)	\$50,000	\$50,000	
33	Chinese Social Development Centre	Installation of fence and surveillance system to make this community asset more secure for the children and seniors that use this facility.	A play area that will have less trash, drug injection needles, and strangers sleeping. Savings and building security from reduced break-ins.	Well-Being (A1)	\$15,000	\$15,000	

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
34	Downtown Eastside Women's Centre Association	Renovation for counselling rooms and administration	Increase ability to provide counselling to the DTES vulnerable people. Allow staff and volunteers to operate more efficiently in the office space	Well-Being (A1,A2,A3)	\$23,490	\$23,490	DTES Capital funding and Social Policy to oversee implementation
35	First United Church Community Ministry Society	Installation of safety anti-slip measures to their storage facility	A safer environment for the vulnerable people to use the storage facility. Less chance of slipping when the surface is wet.	Well-Being (A1,A2,A3)	\$2,240	\$2,240	DTES Capital funding and Social Policy to oversee implementation
36	Gastown BIA Society	Visioning workshop and survey to create a vision for Gastown Public Realm, including traffic, loading, garbage, and road construction issues.	A vision document to guide the future of Gastown's public realm and management of business area during Water St. construction.	Parks + Open Space (E4), Community Place-making (F3)	\$6,500	\$6,500	
37	A Loving Spoonful	Renovation of existing shower/laundry room to create a washroom	Improve an existing community asset to be more resourceful and useful to the volunteers and workers	Well-Being A2 Economy (C7,C8)	\$3,250	\$3,250	DTES Capital funding and Social Policy to oversee implementation
38	Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House	Scoping exercise and needs assessment around social/recreational programming in the DTES	Provide an important DTES community asset with programming ideas, childcare (30 spaces) and food security programs.	Well-Being A3	\$10,000	\$10,000	DTES Capital funding and SP to oversee implementation

No.	Organization	Project Description	Outcomes	Quick Starts (see appendix D)	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
39	Ray Cam Community Association	Consultation and design project for new community centre with social housing above (as per public benefit strategy)	Plans for a new purpose built community centre which would consider key service areas like recreation, childcare, senior supports, cultural space, housing and a hub for partner organizations.	Well-Being (A1,A2,A3) Housing (B1)	\$50,000	\$50,000	Subject to a city-wide needs assessment and amenities study to be completed by the City next year.
40	Strathcona Community Centre Association	Feasibility study to maximize use of anticipated vacated space due to seismic upgrade and new VPL branch on Hastings St.	Better use and organization of space to meet community needs more completely and efficiently.	Well-Being (A1,A2,A3)	\$47,500	\$47,500	Subject to a city-wide needs assessment and amenities study to be completed by the City and Vancouver School Board next year.

2014 DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE CAPITAL GRANTS
Not Recommended

No.	Organization	Project Description	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Comments
1	Vancouver Chinatown BIA Society	Neon lighting for private owned facade	\$50,000	\$0	Private owned building - does not meet current guidelines and needs to be part of a future Neon Light program to be submitted to Council next year.
2	Downtown Eastside Vancouver Centre for the Arts	Study into establishing a Social Enterprise to cultivate and supply traditional medicines and teas	\$8,500	\$0	Does not meet current guidelines for a capital project. Applicant referred to alternate funding sources

QUICK START and SHORT TERM PROJECTS- (amended version of the DTES Plan appendix B)

A - Well-Being
1. Enhance residents sense of safety, inclusion and belonging, including implementing actions from the City’s Task Force on Sex Work and Sexual Exploitation and Missing Women’s Inquiry
2. Improve access to affordable, nutritious, and culturally-appropriate foods
3. Continue to prioritize that the safety of women, children, seniors, and culturally-diverse groups through well-designed spaces and inclusive programs
B - Housing
1. Address urgent social housing needs. Create 850 new social housing units in first 5 years.
2. Develop a strategy to leverage an expanded and targeted DTES rent subsidy program linked to the SAMI initiative.
3. Offer grants to non-profits to upgrade SROs while maintaining affordability
4. Continue working with the Residential Tenancy Branch to improve tenant/landlord relations.
5. Amend the SRA By-law and clarify the fee Council can attach to an SRA permit.
6. Explore creative financing using a ‘cost-benefit’ approach for scattered supportive housing sites.
C - Economy
1. Investigate regulatory changes and building code modifications to accelerate small conversions and renovations of business premises (especially in older buildings that are costly to maintain) to allow business owners who wish to make physical improvements.
2. Work with the four Business Improvement Associations to create a neighbourhood-wide business characteristics survey.
3. Work with VEC and BIAs to attract suitable new enterprises with retail strategies
4. Use City-owned properties, affordable leases, and revitalization tax supports to provide affordable goods and services to the area.
5. Undertake a study of vending alternatives and the establishment of neighbourhood market-selling facilities.
6. Explore changes to the industrial zoning classification for Railtown, to support additional office use which aligns with the evolving cluster of high-tech and digital small businesses located in the area.
7. Support a permanent location for the DTES Street Market for safer survival vending, and opportunities for sale of locally-produced arts and crafts.
8. Facilitate social and green enterprise practices and innovative business methods to achieve Social Impact objectives and Greenest City Action Plan objectives
9. Innovate and support opportunities for market-selling, small business and micro-enterprise opportunities for DTES residents to build the survival economy
10. Identify, secure and maximize economic/business assets that serve the low-income community (particularly in the CBDA)

D - Arts & Culture and Heritage
1. Stabilize key existing physical assets and secure ownership in public domain
2. Retain/create flexible multi-use neighbourhood spaces such as studios, offices, rehearsal/production and indoor/outdoor space
3. Support community efforts to recognize Aboriginal First Nations heritage and the Salish Sea Civilization concept
4. Support community initiatives raised and noted in the <i>Historical and Cultural Review - Powell Street (Japantown)</i> document, such as raising the stature of the Japanese Canadian heritage, applying for designation of the Vancouver Japanese Language School and Hall site as a National Historic Site of Canada
5. Initiate the work on updating the Vancouver Heritage Register.
6. Create a framework and business plan for a Chinatown Society Building Grants Program
7. Implement the Council approved “Chinatown Neighbourhood Plan and Economic Revitalization Strategy” in the context of heritage.
E - Parks & Open Space
1. Convert over-paved or under-used areas into mini-parks or plazas where possible.
2. Review existing street trees to fill gaps and replace ailing trees, and prioritize planting new trees in areas with few or no existing street trees.
3. Make existing parks more useable by adding new features
4. Enhance the public realm to improve walkability, and reinforce the distinct identity of historic areas
F - Community Place-Making
1. Adopt a Social Impact Management Framework to protect and enhance identified community assets, and manage neighbourhood change to provide benefits and opportunities for local resident
2. Hastings Street and Kiwassa Urban Design Framework and Public Realm Plan
3. Undertake improvements to Water Street and Maple Tree Square, including the public realm, pedestrian, cyclist, and traffic safety, and introduce amenities for community programming and celebrations.
G - Well-Managed Growth & Development
1. Amend land use and development policies and bylaws to support plan implementation, including the adoption of a new DTES Rezoning Policy and Social Impact Objectives



DTES Capital Grants

2014

Deadline: Thursday, October 16, 2014

GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA

1. PURPOSE

Downtown Eastside (DTES) Capital Grants are to be allocated according to Council priorities to meet the needs of the local community as set out in the DTES Plan.

The DTES Capital Grants Program is a strategic opportunity to 'kick start' the DTES Plan implementation. Capital funding should be used to achieve the Social Impact Objectives of the DTES Plan through implementing the Quick Starts, short, medium and long term actions as set out in Chapter 18 of the DTES Plan (<http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/downtown-eastside-plan.pdf>).

The key priority areas of the DTES Capital Grants are also to be linked to the DTES Plan by:

- supporting community-based initiatives (for example; micro enterprise establishment, youth outreach, child care and co-op projects etc.),
- fostering community economic development (for example; retail space improvements, façade upgrades, storefront activation, social enterprise equipment and fittings etc.)
- protecting community assets (for example; upgrades to space occupied by social service providers, social enterprise premises and support to the SRO upgrading program etc.), and/or
- improving the walkability and safety of the neighbourhood (for example; street improvements, furniture, lighting, signage and information boards etc.).
- stabilizing existing key cultural spaces, securing long-term tenure of key cultural spaces, enhancing or creating flexible, multi-use and accessible neighbourhood cultural spaces (for example; non-profit offices, indoor/outdoor event spaces, artist studios and rehearsal spaces)

2. ELIGIBILITY

Capital Grants are for capital projects located in the DTES (see map below) with an expectation of project completion by December 31st, 2015.

For DTES projects, the City portion of capital grants will generally not exceed \$50,000.00 unless it can be shown that exceptional circumstances exist to justify a higher grant (refer to Section 5 Cost Sharing).

Grant recipients must be registered non-profit societies, BIA's, community service co-ops, or charities registered with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). This would include social enterprises wholly owned by a non-profit society. Societies must be in good standing with

the Registrar of Societies, be financially stable with sound administration and have a proven track record of public service.

The organization must extend its services to the general public in the DTES, and may not exclude anyone by reason of religion, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, language, disability or income.



Organizations in City-owned or leased facilities are eligible to apply. Any work done to existing facilities must be in accordance with the terms and conditions stated in the lease (e.g. organizations will only be permitted to make capital improvements to areas that are within the lessee’s responsibility). The regular maintenance of City-owned or leased facilities will **not** be an eligible expense. **Note that any capital project will be subject to final approval by the City’s Facilities department.**

Applicants shall have an independent, active governing body composed of volunteers whose main responsibilities shall be program and policy development and fundraising. The Board is held responsible for the effectiveness of services provided and the financial accountability for funds received from all sources. Voting members of the Board of Directors of a Society may not be remunerated for services to the society, but they may be reimbursed for expenses.

Non-profit organizations are **not** eligible to apply for this grant if their primary purpose or activity is the provision of health care or education (excluding childcare or out of school care).

3. ALLOWABLE EXPENSES FOR CAPITAL GRANTS

Projects can include the following (Note: not all projects are expected to meet all criteria):

- Costs associated with building asset improvements, upgrades to premises and/or facades needed to implement the DTES Plan
- Capital improvement related “soft costs” for feasibility studies, investigations, project management etc. can sometimes be funded to build capacity leading towards capital related improvements
- Strategic opportunities (where projects have potential for substantial outcome that meets Council/DTES priorities, significant partnership opportunities the City wishes to support, and there may be a limited window for implementation)
- Movable assets such as machinery, tools, equipment, appliances, furniture etc.

(Note: Capital grants may not be used for work already completed).

4. DECISION MAKING CONSIDERATIONS

The following guidelines will form the basis of evaluating whether or not the proposals will help implement the DTES Plan:

- a. The Social Impact Objectives of the DTES Plan (See Chapter 1) and applicants should describe how they would use the funds to achieve all or some of these objectives:
 - Ensure that developments and businesses fit the DTES neighbourhood context, offer needed, locally-serving uses, and do not significantly exclude or negatively impact the low-income community.
 - Encourage a wide range of housing options in the neighbourhood, with a particular focus on new and improved social and affordable housing for the homeless and other low- and moderate-income singles and families.
 - Ensure diverse development that is respectful of heritage assets, surrounding scale, urban pattern, and social and community context.
 - Improve the overall quality, accessibility and inclusiveness of the public realm in the DTES, recognizing the uniqueness of each sub-area.
 - Maintain diversity of existing businesses and commercial uses and support affordable commercial spaces for social enterprises, micro enterprises and small businesses providing low-cost goods and services for residents.
 - Encourage the use of local goods and services in the construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed development or business.
 - Encourage local and inclusive hiring in the construction, operation and maintenance phases of the improvement and the strengthening of social and micro economies.
 - Maintain adequate health and social services within the community, as well as community amenity and gathering spaces to serve the needs of the diverse local population.
 - Retain, preserve and celebrate local heritage, arts and culture for all.

- b. The effectiveness and type of service offered by the applicant and the partnership/s involved.
- c. Ability of the proposal to achieve implementation of Quick Starts in the DTES Plan, supported by measurable data and targets of what will be the intended outcomes within expected timelines (for example: number of local jobs, training outcomes, green enterprise opportunities, amount of local serving retail space, child care opportunities to be created in the time period of the project etc.).
- d. The amount of financial support which has been secured from other sources.
- e. The estimated cost of the project, and
- f. The amount of grant request in the context of the available equity/funding contribution to be provided by the applicant.

5. COST SHARING

The DTES Capital Projects Grants Program seeks to prioritise those initiatives that involve partnerships to build capacity and leverage additional funding through sourcing other funding (intergovernmental, interdepartmental, private sector, non-profit etc. trusts and cooperatives), applicant's own reserves and in-kind contributions. The City contribution will generally not exceed 50% of the total project cost, except where a City contribution can be shown to leverage a higher ratio of City to other funds for more substantial capital projects. Any applicant wishing to apply for more than \$50,000.00 should contact the City representative (see details below) to discuss this requirement before submitting their application.

6. PAYMENT

Capital grant payment will be based on a pre-authorized budget subject to confirmation of total project financing and all necessary approvals.

Successful applicants have one year in which to raise all necessary funding and complete the approved capital project. In situations where grants have been approved, but where conditions have not been met and, therefore, City funds not advanced, the allocated amount will be returned to the City after one year.

If a grant is approved, the terms of the payment will be determined at the Terms of Reference (ToR) and Letter of Understanding (LOU) stage.

7. CITY COUNCIL DECISION ON CAPITAL GRANTS

The deadline for Capital Grant applications is 4:30PM, Thursday, October 16, 2014. City staff will review all eligible applications and make recommendations to City Council by December 2014.

8. HOW TO APPLY

Application forms are available electronically from the City's web site at <http://vancouver.ca/people-programs/capital-grants-program.aspx>. The application form is in Word format and the Budget is in Excel format.

9. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The following documents are required as attachments to support your request:

1. A least two current detailed cost estimates.
2. A concise description of the proposal linked to the Quick Start that your project will implement, with proposed metrics and targets to illustrate and monitor progress.
3. Drawings and plans of the proposed project, if applicable.
4. A copy of legal permits, if available at the time of submission.
5. Letter from Worker's Compensation Board confirming the applicant is registered in good standing and the registration number.
6. Letters of confirmation from other funding sources, if available.
7. A copy of your *BC Registry Certificate of Good Standing*, if not previously submitted in other grant applications.
8. If the property is not owned by the applicant, a copy of the lease and a letter from the landlord/property owner authorizing the proposed project. If the property is located in a City-owned facility, a letter from the City authorizing the project is not required, as staff will consult with the Facilities Department directly. **However it is very strongly advised that you contact your City representative in the Facilities Department in advance of making an application to us to make them aware of your project.**

For more information, please contact Wesley Joe at 604.873-7736 / wesley.joe@vancouver.ca or Tom Wanklin at 604.673.8288 / tom.wanklin@vancouver.ca of the DTES Planning Group.

Please complete all sections of the application. The application must be signed by one member of your organization's Board of Directors or a staff representative. One electronic (Word) copy of the application form must be e-mailed to social policy email. One original signed hard copy of the application form and attachments must be submitted in person or by mail to:

Social Policy Division
City of Vancouver
501 - 111 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 1H4

DEADLINE:
Applications must be received by Social Policy
By 4:30PM, Thursday, October 16, 2014