



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: February 10, 2015
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Meeting Date: February 17, 2015

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager of Financial Services in consultation with the General Managers of Parks and Recreation, and Real Estate and Facilities Management

SUBJECT: Grant Applications for Sun Yat-Sen Park/Garden Renewal and Asset Management Planning

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve a grant application to the Federal National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program for \$100,000 toward the renewal of Sun Yat-Sen Park/Garden located in Chinatown, a National Historic Site.
- B. THAT Council approve a grant application to UBCM's Asset Management Planning Program for \$10,000 to advance the City's and Park Board's capital asset management for parks and open spaces.

REPORT SUMMARY

The successful implementation of the City's 2015-2018 Capital Plan requires the securing of external funding, in particular for larger scale projects and ongoing programs that involve multiple partners.

This report seeks Council's approval for submitting grant applications to two smaller funding programs that have deadlines in the next two months:

- The Federal National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program and
- UBCM's Asset Management Planning Program.

Staff will report to Council on a periodic basis as information regarding applicable projects under other funding programs becomes available.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Federal and/or Provincial funding programs typically require a resolution of Council as part of the application package.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Financial Services recommends approval of the report.

REPORT

Background/Context

[Federal National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program](#)

This is an ongoing program managed by Parks Canada. The program supports the preservation of National Historic Sites not owned or administered by the Federal government. A total of \$1 million is available for the 2015-2016 fiscal year for all of Canada. The maximum contribution is \$100,000 per project. The deadline for submitting an application is February 20, 2015.

[UBCM's Asset Management Planning Program](#)

The Asset Management Planning Program was created in 2014 through a \$1.5 million grant from the Provincial Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development to the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM). The intent of the program is to assist local governments in extending and deepening asset management practices within their organizations. The maximum contribution is \$10,000 per project. The deadline for submitting an application is March 20, 2015.

Strategic Analysis

[Federal National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program](#)

The following National Historic Sites are partially or fully owned/managed by the City and/or Park Board:

- [Stanley Park](#);
- [Gastown](#) (City-owned elements referenced by Parks Canada include Water Street, Maple Tree Square and streetscape elements such as the red-brick paving and ornate lamp fixtures);
- [Chinatown](#) (City-owned elements referenced by Parks Canada include the Chinese Cultural Centre, Sun Yat-Sen Park/Garden and Millennium Gate);
- [Former Law Courts](#) at Howe and Georgia Streets (currently the Vancouver Art Gallery);
- [Orpheum Theatre](#) at Seymour and Smithe Streets; and
- [The St. Roch Schooner](#) located at the Maritime Museum in Hadden Park.

The City/Park Board are in the midst of a multi-year renewal of Sun Yat-Sen Park/Garden in Chinatown. Following the Sun Yat-Sen Condition Report and Upgrade Plan completed in 2010, the City/Park Board approved \$1 million of funding as part of the 2012-2014 Capital Plan for the first phase of the building restoration work. This

included repairs of the north wall cap and entry pavilion roof (\$370,000 - work completed in 2014) and Jade Water Pavilion reroofing (\$400,000 - work to be completed in 2015-2016).

The second phase of work has been included in the 2015-2018 Capital Plan (\$700,000) and involves pond restoration. The pond habitat needs to be improved for the long term sustainability and health of the pond ecosystem. It is recommended that the City/Park Board apply for a \$100,000 grant from Parks Canada to support the current restoration work.

The 2015-2018 Capital Plan also include projects in Stanley Park (e.g. seawall reconstruction, Beaver Lake restoration) and Gastown (e.g. rehabilitation of Water Street and Maple Tree Square). These projects are not scheduled for construction in 2015 and will be considered for Parks Canada funding in future years.

UBCM's Asset Management Planning Program

In the past 10 years, the City has made significant advances with regard to managing its capital assets, including the preparation of a 10-year Capital Strategic Outlook and detailed asset inventories/condition assessments for waterworks, sewers, transportation and building assets.

During the 2015-2018 Capital Plan period, as part of a planned Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan, Park Board staff will take the lead in preparing detailed asset inventories/condition assessments for parks and open spaces assets. It is therefore recommended that the City/Park Board apply for a \$10,000 grant from UBCM to support this asset management initiative.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)

Financial

The value of the two grant applications is \$110,000. For every application that is successful, staff will include project and budget approval in one of the upcoming Quarterly Budget Adjustment reports, which are scheduled for May (Q1), September (Q2) and November (Q3), or the 2016 Budget.

CONCLUSION

By applying to the funding programs outlined in this report, the City has the opportunity to access up to \$110,000 in external funding to support the City's 2015-2018 Capital Plan.

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