



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: May 29, 2015
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Meeting Date: June 10, 2015

TO: Standing Committee on City Finance and Services

FROM: General Manager of Finance, Risk and Business Planning in consultation with the General Managers of Parks and Recreation, Real Estate and Facilities Management and Engineering Services and the Director of the Sustainability Group

SUBJECT: Grant Applications for Community Energy Projects

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve a grant application to the BC Community Energy Leadership Program for \$80,000 toward the Killarney Community Centre Energy Conservation Upgrade project.
- B. THAT Council approve a grant application to the BC Community Energy Leadership Program for \$80,000 toward the City of Vancouver SEFC Neighbourhood Energy Utility Expansion to the Great Northern Way Campus Lands project.

REPORT SUMMARY

The successful implementation of the City's 2015-2018 Capital Plan requires the securing of external funding. This report seeks Council's approval for submitting two grant applications to the Provincial government in support of two community energy projects related to city assets that are scheduled for implementation in 2015.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

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

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes of Council.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

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

Background/Context

The Community Energy Leadership Program is a three year funding program, starting in 2015, managed by the Provincial Ministry of Energy and Mines. This cost-sharing program supports local governments' and First Nations' investments in energy efficiency and clean energy projects. The primary purposes of the program are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency, stimulate economic activity in the clean energy sector, and support vibrant and resilient communities.

The program supports two types of projects:

- energy efficiency through retrofits of community-owned buildings and other infrastructure; and
- small scale community-owned energy generation from clean or renewable resources such as biomass, biogas, geothermal heat, hydro, solar, ocean or wind.

A total of \$1.24 million is available over the three year program, with \$250,000 available in 2015. Contributions in 2015 will range from \$20,000 to \$80,000 per project. Projects must be completed or substantially completed by March 31, 2016.

The deadline for submitting applications is June 23, 2015. In the context of the City making applications, a resolution of Council supporting each grant application is required. The Provincial government will notify applicants in July 2015.

Strategic Analysis

Two eligible projects have been identified by staff, one for each program stream.

Killarney Community Centre Energy Conservation Upgrade project:

This project is recommended for the 'energy efficiency through retrofits' stream.

The community centre is located in southeast Vancouver, near 49th Avenue and Kerr Street. The complex currently includes a community centre, swimming pool and ice rink, with plans to expand the community centre by adding a seniors' centre.

The project involves recovering waste heat from the swimming pool and ice rink and using it at the community centre and the planned seniors' centre addition. Staff estimate that the project will reduce gas consumption by 14,000 gigajoules per year and greenhouse gas emissions by 750 tonnes per year.

The project is shovel-ready and scheduled to be implemented later in 2015. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$500,000. Staff are recommending that we seek \$80,000 in Provincial funding.

SEFC Neighbourhood Energy Utility Expansion to the Great Northern Way Campus Lands Project:

This project is recommended for the 'small scale community-owned energy generation' stream.

The City owns and operates a Neighbourhood Energy Utility (NEU) in Southeast False Creek (located between Cambie and Main Streets). The project involves a 0.75 km extension of the NEU hot water distribution system to provide low-carbon heat and hot water to new buildings in the Great Northern Way Campus Lands (located east of Main Street), including the re-located Emily Carr University. The Great Northern Way Campus Lands are planned to have 800,000 square feet of building floor area.

This system utilizes waste heat recovered from municipal waste water to eliminate more than 60% of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with heat and hot water use for buildings.

The project is shovel-ready and scheduled to be implemented later in 2015. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$1,550,000. Staff are recommending that we seek \$80,000 in Provincial funding.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)***Financial***

The value of the two grant applications is \$160,000. If either one or both applications are successful, staff will account for the provincial funding in the Quarterly Budget Adjustment report scheduled for September.

CONCLUSION

By applying to the Provincial Community Energy Leadership Program, the City has the opportunity to access up to \$160,000 in external funding to support two community energy projects that are scheduled for implementation in 2015.

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