
**REPORT TO CORE AREA LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 25 APRIL 2007**

SUBJECT **BOWKER CREEK URBAN WATERSHED RENEWAL INITIATIVE – INTEGRATED
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

PURPOSE

To obtain Capital Regional District (CRD) Board endorsement to submit funding applications for the second phase of the Integrated Stormwater Management Plan (ISMP) for the Bowker Creek watershed.

BACKGROUND

One of the key short-term priority actions of the Bowker Creek Urban Watershed Renewal Initiative (BCI) is the completion of an ISMP for the watershed. The ISMP will combine information on how water flows through the watershed, with environmental (wildlife and habitat), social (greenways, community amenities) and economic information, provide an integrated set of recommendations for rainwater, stormwater and riparian areas management for the Bowker Creek watershed and will support many of the objectives of the Bowker Creek Watershed Management Plan.

The first phase of the ISMP was to conduct a Master Drainage Plan (MDP). The MDP examines water flows and identifies drainage solutions for the watershed and prioritizes stormwater problems and potential solutions. It will also provide the estimated costs and benefits for each solution identified and provide a plan for future capital works requirements.

\$120,000 in project funds was obtained for the MDP, mainly from provincial and federal funding sources. The MDP was initiated in October 2006. The draft MDP is near completion and the results will be incorporated into the overall ISMP. The BCI is now proceeding with the second phase of the ISMP, which will incorporate environmental, social and economic considerations with the results of the MDP.

The BCI plans to take a similar approach to the funding and management of the second phase of the ISMP as was taken on the MDP. A BCI subcommittee has been formed to obtain funding for, and guide the development of, an ISMP. The subcommittee includes municipal engineering and planning staff, biologists and community members. Approximately \$100,000 will be required to complete the ISMP.

The BCI funding subcommittee is currently working to obtain external funds required for the ISMP through provincial and federal grant applications. Many of these funding applications require CRD Board approval and, in some cases, require some level of matching funds. Matching funds for grant applications are available in the current BCI budget.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the Board endorse funding applications for the completion of the BCI ISMP, providing that any required matching funds are covered in existing BCI budgets.
2. That the Board separately endorse each individual funding application for Phase 2 of the ISMP.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is estimated that the costs of the second phase of the ISMP will be approximately \$100,000. Any matching funds required for successful funding applications will come from existing BCI budgets.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Without significant external funds, the BCI ISMP cannot be completed. This will result in a lost opportunity to complete and implement an integrated plan that addresses water flow, environment, social and economic values of the watershed. The lack of a plan will lead to continuation of a disjointed approach to managing the watershed. This will result in further degradation of the watershed.

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS

The successful implementation of the BCI relies on the completion of, and direction provided by, an ISMP. External funding is essential to the completion of the ISMP. To apply for this funding, CRD Board endorsement is required.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Core Area Liquid Waste Management committee recommend to the Board:
that the Board endorse funding applications for the completion of the Integrated Stormwater Management Plan for the Bowker Creek watershed, providing that the required matching funds are covered in existing Bowker Creek Initiative budgets.

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COMMENTS

JW:bc