

REPORT TO THE ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 05 OCTOBER 2011

SUBJECT

JOINT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANNING GRANT FOR THE JUAN DE FUCA ELECTORAL AREA

ISSUE

The deadline for application to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Planning (JEPP) grants for 2011 is October 15, and proposals from the CRD Emergency Program require a motion of support from the Board prior to being submitted for consideration of funding.

BACKGROUND

Annually, the federal government, through partnership with local provincial emergency management organizations such as Emergency Management BC (EMBC), accepts applications for JEPP funding. Generally, the program covers expenditures in emergency management based on 50% funding for approved projects.

This year, through consultation with local electoral area programs, we are recommending an application for the purchase of two additional tsunami sirens for the Juan de Fuca (JdF) area. One will be located in Jordan River as they are currently without a siren, and the other in an area of Port Renfrew where testing has identified a gap in the coverage from current sirens. The new sirens would be activated in the same manner as the current Port Renfrew sirens. Given the remote location but increased activity and relatively large number of people visiting these areas, this was identified as a priority for public safety by the JdF Emergency program. Costs for the sirens are \$12,130.40 in total, half of which will be applied for through this grant.

IMPLICATIONS

Economic Implications

The grant provides 50% cost coverage for the entire project, including installation. Matching funds from the program have been allocated for this project.

Public Safety Implications

Provision of these two sirens provides good coverage in the area of our region most prone to tsunamis. These sirens, combined with the exercises and training in the JdF Emergency program, along with the communities involved, will provide a higher level of public warning in the event of a tsunami.

CONCLUSION

By capturing 50% funding from this federal grant, the JdF Emergency program will reap the added benefit of tsunami warning sirens in their community in a cost effective way, while enhancing local community preparedness.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Electoral Area Services Committee recommends that the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the application to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Planning for funding to cover 50% of the cost of two tsunami sirens in Jordan River and Elliottville for the Juan de Fuca Emergency program be endorsed.

Travis Whiting

Senior Manager, Protective Services

Robert Lapham, MCIP

General Manager, Planning & Protective Services

Kelly Daniels

Chief Administrative Officer

Concurrence