



**REPORT TO THE ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 21 MARCH, 2012**

**SUBJECT FUNDING FOR THE NORTH GANGES VILLAGE TRANSPORTATION
MANAGEMENT PLAN (NGVTMP)**

ISSUE

The Salt Spring Island (SSI) Transportation Commission has supported the construction of a series of bike lanes, sidewalks and road improvements, in partnership with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI), in the Village of Ganges on Salt Spring Island. All required MoTI permits have been obtained by the CRD.

BACKGROUND

In July 2008, the Electoral Area Services Committee approved the allocation of \$425,000 of Community Works Funds (CWF) for the construction of a multi-use pathway and the undertaking of a survey and detailed designs for a transportation management plan in the Ganges vicinity. A further \$338,134 was approved for allocation to the Ganges Villages Transportation Plan in November 2010. To date \$150,000 has been spent on the pathway, the survey and designs. Therefore, \$613,000 of approved funds remain unspent and available for 2012 construction.

The resulting transportation management plan identifies specific bike lanes, sidewalks and road improvements to be done in 2012 at an estimated cost of \$1,575,000. The MoTI has committed to contribute \$450,000 toward the cost, and \$178,120 in capital reserve funds will be added. Therefore, approximately \$335,000 in additional funding will be required.

In 2012 the CWF allocation to SSI is \$340,540.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board authorizes a contribution of \$340,540 from the SSI Electoral Area's CWF to the North Ganges Villages Transportation Management Plan.
2. That the project be reduced in scope by eliminating or deferring sections of the bike lanes and sidewalks.

IMPLICATIONS

This project will be highly visible in the Electoral Area, and the CRD's partnership with the MoTI would be seen as an efficient and effective use of taxpayer funding. Failure to obtain adequate funding will require the deferral or elimination of significant sections of walkways or bike lanes, and would create inefficiencies in the project as a whole.

CONCLUSION


The allocation of CWF to the NGVTMP would allow the CRD to work in partnership with the MoTI to construct much needed transportation infrastructure improvements to the benefit of the taxpayers of SSI.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Electoral Area Services Committee recommends to the CRD Board that it authorize the contribution of \$340,540 from the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area's Community Works Funds to construct the works identified in the North Ganges Village Transportation Management Plan.



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