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**REPORT TO THE ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2013**

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**SUBJECT**      **COMMUNITY WORKS FUND ALLOCATION: TRAIL ACCESS BETWEEN  
ROCHE COVE/MOUNT MATHESON LAKE REGIONAL PARK AND MOUNT  
MATHESON ESTATES**

**ISSUE**

Development of a neighbourhood access trail between Roche Cove/Matheson Lake Regional Park and Mount Matheson Estates

**BACKGROUND**

The Mount Matheson Conservation Society, in its letter of October 4, 2013 to the Juan de Fuca (JDF) Electoral Area Director, has requested a contribution of \$20,000 for development of a neighbourhood access trail between Mount Matheson Estates and Roche Cove/Matheson Lake Regional Park. The Society has acquired the statutory right of way (SRW) for this access and it is now registered in the Capital Regional District (CRD)'s name.

The proposed trail on the SRW will connect with a Matheson Lake Regional Park trail that CRD Regional Parks is committed to upgrading under the terms of an agreement established with Juan de Fuca Parks and Recreation and the Mount Matheson Conservation Society.

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Commission endorsed development of the proposed neighbourhood trail access several years ago (September 7, 2006). It is eligible for financial support under the Federal Gas Tax Agreement. The JDF Electoral Area Director supports the allocation of \$20,000 from JDF's portion of the Gas Tax Community Works Fund (CWF) to the project.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the CRD Board authorize a contribution of \$20,000 from the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area portion of the Gas Tax Community Works Fund for development of a neighborhood access trail between Roche Cove/Mount Matheson Lake Regional Park and Mount Matheson Estates.
2. That CRD staff determine an alternative source of funds for the project.

**IMPLICATIONS**

Operational

The project is consistent with the JDF Community Parks Strategic Management Plan. Regional Parks will coordinate the contract work to complete the project.

Economic

The project fits the Federal Gas Tax Agreement eligibility criteria under the active transportation infrastructure category. Funds for this project are available in the JDF Electoral Area's portion of the Gas Tax CWF. These funds can be used to cover the grant-eligible costs of the project.

**CONCLUSION**

Several years ago, the JDF Parks and Recreation Commission endorsed a request from the Mount Matheson Conservation Society to develop a neighbourhood access trail between Mount Matheson Estates and Roche Cove/Mount Matheson Lake Regional Park. Approximately two years ago, CRD Regional Parks, the JDF Parks and Recreation Commission and the Society concluded an agreement to proceed. All that is required now is the proposed grant to cover the cost of developing the trail on the SRW.

This trail project is eligible for funding under the Gas Tax Agreement and the JDF Electoral Area Director supports an allocation of \$20,000 to the project from the JDF's portion of the Gas Tax CWF.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the CRD Board authorize a contribution of \$20,000 from the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area portion of the Gas Tax Community Works Fund for development of a neighborhood access trail between Roche Cove/Mount Matheson Lake Regional Park and Mount Matheson Estates.

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