

REPORT TO JUAN DE FUCA WATER DISTRIBUTION COMMISSION MEETING OF TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016

SUBJECT

CANADA-BRITISH COLUMBIA CLEAN WATER AND WASTEWATER FUND – GRANT APPLICATION FOR ANDERSON COVE (EAST SOOKE) WATER SERVICE EXTENSION

ISSUE

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Board recently resolved to permit the extension of water service within the Anderson Cove portion of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Service Area. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Director has requested that a grant application be submitted for the proposed Anderson Cove water service extension project funding.

BACKGROUND

Water Service Area Discussion

In 2002, CRD Bylaw No. 2984 was adopted to amend CRD Bylaw No. 2538, being 'Water Distribution Local Service Area Establishment Bylaw No.1, 1997' which set out the portion of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area in East Sooke, to be included in the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution service area. The service area included the Anderson Cove area, which represents approximately 30 single family residential properties, which rely on groundwater sources for domestic water supply. To date, the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution system has not been extended to the area to allow connection.

In addition to the lack of available water infrastructure, the current Regional Growth Strategy language potentially would have required an amendment to the Regional Urban Containment and Servicing Policy Area (RUCSPA) to permit an extension of water service to Anderson Cove. However, at its October 12, 2016 meeting, the CRD Board resolved to permit the extension of water service to the Anderson Cove area, deeming the extension in accordance with Action 1.1 (5) of the current (2003) Regional Growth Strategy.

Project Overview

In order to extend the Juan de Fuca water distribution system to the Anderson Cove area, the project would include approximately two kilometres of new watermain, service connections, fire hydrants and other appurtenances, as well as approximately one kilometre of watermain upgrades near the Copper Mine area of the existing distribution system, necessary to achieve required fire flows in the Anderson Cove area (See Attachment A). The estimated cost for the project including engineering design, construction and contingencies is \$3.2 million.

Grant Opportunity – Canada-British Columbia Clean Water and Wastewater Fund

On October 3, 2016, the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development announced the launch of the Canada-British Columbia Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (CWWF) program to support the "rehabilitation of local government drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and the planning and design of future facilities and upgrades to existing systems." The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Director has requested that a grant application be submitted for

the proposed Anderson Cove water service extension project funding with the approval of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission. Under the program, Regional Districts may submit one application for each service area. The project is eligible for CWWF funding as it meets the program criteria. The deadline for submitting project applications is November 23, 2016 with program decisions expected in the spring of 2017.

The program would fund up to 83% of the project costs and the remaining 17% would be funded by the benefitting property owners. The final 17% share value would be determined upon project completion. The payment mechanism has yet to be determined, but options could include lump sum payment or financing through the establishment of a service area for the purpose of a CRD loan. A project information meeting was held at the East Sooke Fire Hall on October 26, 2016, to present the project overview and cost estimates, the CWWF program opportunity, and to gauge the level of support for the benefiting property owners portion of the funding. All but one of the approximately 30 benefiting property owners are supportive of the project and have informally committed to funding their portion of the project if the project receives grant funding. The grant application would be submitted with the condition that a firm funding commitment would be obtained if the project receives grant funding.

<u>ALTERNATIVES</u>

That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission recommends to the Electoral Area Services Committee that:

- 1. CRD staff be directed to prepare and submit an application for a Canada-British Columbia Clean Water and Wastewater Fund grant for the water service extension to the Anderson Cove area of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution service area.
- 2. CRD staff not be directed to prepare and submit an application for a Canada-British Columbia Clean Water and Wastewater Fund grant for the water service extension to the Anderson Cove area of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution service area.

IMPLICATIONS

<u>Alternative 1</u> – Staff have conducted conceptual engineering work to determine hydraulic requirements, project scope and preliminary cost estimates. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Director has committed to funding the cost of the preliminary engineering work and preparation of the grant application. If the project receives grant funding and the project is completed, the Anderson Cove area, which includes approximately 30 properties, would be provided with a stable, long-term supply of safe drinking water and fire flows for fire protection. Based on preliminary cost estimates, if the project receives grant funding, the benefiting property owners' portion of the project costs would equate to approximately \$540,000 or 17% of the total project cost. Regardless of whether the project receives grant funding or not, when the project is designed and constructed, it will be at the full cost of the benefiting properties in the Anderson Cove area.

<u>Alternative 2</u> – Staff will not submit a grant application for the project and await a future request for extension from the service area. The properties will remain reliant on their existing groundwater systems for domestic water supply.

CONCLUSION

A recent CRD Board water servicing policy decision permits extension of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Service into the Anderson Cove area of East Sooke, which is currently not serviced by the system. The area is a previously developed residential area which relies on groundwater for domestic water supply and does not have water supply for fire protection. Some residents have also raised concerns regarding the long term ability to protect their groundwater sources from contamination. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Director has requested that a grant application be submitted for a Canada-British Columbia Clean Water and Wastewater Fund grant for the water service extension to the Anderson Cove area of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution service area. The estimated cost for the project including engineering design, construction and contingencies is \$3.2 million. If successful, the project could receive up to 83% in senior government funding. The deadline for submitting project applications is November 23, 2016 with program decisions expected in the spring of 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission recommends to the Electoral Area Services Committee that CRD staff be directed to prepare and submit an application for a Canada-British Columbia Clean Water and Wastewater Fund grant for the water service extension to the Anderson Cove area of the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution service area.

Submitted by: Ted Robbins, BSc, CTech, General Manager, Integrated Water Service

TR:mm Attachment: 1

