

## CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

Staff Report to the Regional Planning Committee  
Meeting of Wednesday, November 21, 2001

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### **SUBJECT:**

Proposed Regional Economic Development Strategy

### **BACKGROUND:**

- Mar 28, 2001: Board approves \$35,000 as a contribution for costs associated with the preparation of a Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS), to be carried out by the Capital Enterprise Partnership (CEP) (now the Greater Victoria Enterprise Partnership Society), subject to - approval of a project description, work plan, and a partnership agreement negotiated under section 176 of the *Local Government Act*.
- May 9, 2001: Draft of proposed REDS partnership agreement reviewed and discussed by representatives of the CEP (Lorne Whyte, Glenn Terrell), the CRD (Chairman Causton, Vice-Chair Hunter, Mark Hornell) and Mayor Beth Gibson (representing the Mayor's Economic Summit).
- June 5, 2001: CEP representatives Lorne Whyte, Ken Stratford and Doug Taylor meet with Mark Hornell to discuss revisions to the proposed partnership agreement.
- June 20, 2001: Committee approves in principle the proposed REDS Partnership Agreement.
- July 27, 2001: Comments received on proposed REDS partnership agreement from Regional Solicitor Colin Stewart.
- Aug. 1, 2001: The committee recommends to the Board that funding, previously approved in principle, for the economic development, housing affordability and transportation strategies be approved, prior to the Board receiving all the input and committee recommendations on the draft RGS.
- Aug. 8, 2001: The Board tables a committee motion to approve funding for the proposed REDS until after the Chairman has met with Minister Abbott and it has discussed the responses to the RGS pre-by-law referral.
- Oct. 17, 2001: The committee tables consideration of final endorsement of the proposed partnership agreement and requests representation from the GVEPS at the November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting to discuss the project and the draft terms of reference.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Following the Committee meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup> Doug Taylor of GVEPS was contacted and he agreed to attend the meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup>. At the time of contact draft terms of reference for the project had not yet been completed. However, GVEPS had initiated a call for expressions of interest to interested consultants and Mr. Taylor indicated terms of reference would be available once a short list of potential consultants was identified (Attachment A). At the time of this writing the draft terms of reference have not been made available to RPS. Staff will endeavour to obtain copies of the draft project terms of reference for distribution at the meeting.

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Enclosed also for the committee's reference is the final revision of the proposed partnership agreement that includes the revisions requested by the regional solicitor in his letter of July 27, 2001. This partnership

agreement has been reviewed and approved verbally by Mr. Taylor. To date in the process the Board has not yet given approval in principle to the proposed partnership agreement.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Regional Planning Committee recommend to the Board that it approve in principle the proposed Regional Economic Development Strategy Partnership agreement.

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Mark Hornell, MCIP  
Director - Regional Planning Services

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:**

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W.M. Jordan, Executive Director

Attachments  
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