

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT
Regional Planning Services Department

Staff Report to the Regional Planning Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, October 15, 2003

SUBJECT:

Transportation Governance & Funding Study – Proposed Project Description

BACKGROUND:

Sept. 17, 2003 The committee directed staff to prepare a project description for a consultant study into transportation governance and funding options for the Capital Region, for review and discussion.

DISCUSSION:

The CRDs Regional Growth Strategy, in section 4 – Transportation – includes as action 2 the following statement:

The CRD, in partnership with the Province and member municipalities, agrees to establish, through an implementation agreement, a permanent and durable framework and mechanism for short, medium and long term transportation planning, governance and funding in the Capital Region within three years of the adoption of the Regional Growth Strategy.

The *TravelChoices* Regional Transportation Strategy project included within its terms of reference, the identification of funding, governance and authority necessary to implement the priority actions of the strategy. This was directly addressed in *TravelChoices* working paper No. 8, *Managing and Funding Regional Transportation*. This work included the identification of funding and organizational principles, potential sources of funding, and the identification of general organizational models for managing regional transportation.

The final consultants report on the *TravelChoices* Strategy and implementation recommendations recommends that beyond the next five years, there will need to be a “made in the region” governance and funding model developed, and specifically recommends that “...the CRD Board establish a committee to investigate the long-term opportunities for funding and managing regional transportation facilities, services and programs...” including the development in more detail, of “...optional organizational models that could be implemented in the Capital Region.”

Attachment A presents a description for a project to examine in more detail than was done in *TravelChoices*, a range of optional organizational models that currently exist and that may inform the development of optional transportation governance and funding models for the Capital Region. The purpose of this work is twofold: to provide additional information to decision-makers considering the final consultant recommendations presented in *TravelChoices*; and, to provide a basis of research and analysis that could serve as a starting point for any Board

appointed committee struck to investigate long term opportunities and optional models for funding and managing regional transportation in the Capital Region. If approved by the committee, a call for expressions of interest will be sent out to selected consultants. Following identification of a short list of qualified consultants, and the determination of an upset project budget, a full request for proposals (RFP) will be distributed and a preferred consultant identified, with the intent of commencing work by year-end.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Regional Planning Committee:

1. approve in principle the transportation governance and funding study project description; and,
2. authorize staff to initiate a process to retain consulting services to undertake the project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION:

Although a final budget for the project is not determined at this time, it would be funded from funds remaining from the *TravelChoices* budget. An upset budget for the project would be determined through consideration of submissions received to a call for consultant expressions of interest.

Mark Hornell, MCIP
Director, Regional Planning Services

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

W.M. Jordan, Executive Director