

# REPORT Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

**To**: Mayor Johnstone and Members of **Date**: September 9, 2024

Council

From: Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer File: 05.1035.05

**Item #**: 2024-510

Subject: 2024-2034 UBCM Canada Community Works Fund Agreement

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** Council authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to execute the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement included as Attachment 1.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Community Works Fund Agreement (the "Agreement") between the City and the Union of BC Municipalities is to continue to provide dedicated funds to each BC local government for investments in local infrastructure and capacity-building project priorities.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Community Works Fund allocates funding to all BC local governments based on a per capita formula. Funding can be directed to eligible costs of eligible projects as set out in the Agreement which are then reported annually together with their outcomes. The program is estimated to deliver \$1.3 billion over the next ten years. Under the previous agreement 910 projects were reported in 2023 costing \$177 million. The term of the Agreement is from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2034.

#### DISCUSSION

The commitments of the City under the Agreement are set out in Section 6 of the Agreement which include completion of eligible projects in Schedule B and the eligible expenditures set out in Schedule C. UBCM, in Attachment 2, has provided a table listing

21 eligible investment categories for the planning, designing, build, renovation or life span extension of tangible capital assets. Examples of ineligible uses of the funding is also listed. They include City halls, child care centers, social housing, seniors and health care facilities.

There are also provisions in the Agreement requiring: Program Reporting in Schedule D; Communications Protocol in Schedule E and a Housing Report in Schedule G. Record keeping and audit requirements are also included. Canada and UBCM may also have access to the records and accounts used to manage the programs under the Agreement by the City.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

In the first year of the Agreement the City will receive \$159,288 in two equal installments, following July 15, 2024 and between November 15, 2024 and March 31, 2025. Current and future annual funding is subject to receipt by UBCM of these funds from Canada. The funds must be invested in a distinct account before paying eligible expenditures. Interest earned on the funds must be used for the commitments of the City under Section 6 of the Agreement.

### **OPTIONS**

The following options are presented for Council's consideration:

- 1. That Council authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to execute the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement included as Attachment 1.
- 2. That Council provide staff with other direction.

Staff recommends Option 1.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement

Attachment 2: Community Works Fund Program 2024-2034 Eligible Investment Categories

#### **APPROVALS**

This report was prepared by: Craig MacFarlane, Manager of Legal Services

This report was approved by: Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer