

## **COMMUNICATION 130214**

Received From: Dave Young, Public Works Director  
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole  
Date: November 26, 2019  
Topic: Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Green Stream

### **SUMMARY**

The Green Stream intake under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) was recently announced by the Province of Ontario. The present intake provides up to \$200 million in infrastructure funding focussing on critical water, wastewater and stormwater rehabilitation and replacement projects focused on health and safety improvements to a maximum of \$3 million in eligible costs. The deadline for applications under the program is January 22, 2020.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Green Fund is one (1) of four (4) funding streams under the Canada-Ontario Infrastructure Bilateral Agreement. It is the last of the four to be announced. The four (4) streams are as follows:

- Rural and Norther Infrastructure Fund
- Public Transit Fund
- Community, Culture and Recreation Fund
- Green Fund

The decision to introduce the various programs at different times was in response to feedback from municipal governments that opening all streams at once presents challenges to municipal administrations.

### **COMMENT**

The ICIP is a \$30 billion infrastructure fund providing funding to municipal governments and indigenous communities with a population less than 100,000 of which there are about 500. The Ministry of Infrastructure is proposing to roll-out the Green Fund stream through two (2) intakes: this one and a subsequent Green Stream intake in 2020, which could focus on other emerging priorities for water, wastewater and stormwater projects and/or climate change and disaster mitigation. The deadline for the first stream is January 22, 2020. Projects must be completed prior to October 31, 2026. Each applicant can submit one project submission for Intake 1.

The levels of funding available from the three levels of government are as follows:

- The federal government will provide 40% funding;
- the provincial share is 33%;
- Municipal share will be 26.67%

The Green stream supports the following eligible asset types:

- a. Drinking water (e.g. treatment plans, reservoirs, local pipes including the distribution system watermain and the municipal portion of service lines, pump stations)

Drinking water quality following completion of a drinking water project must meet or exceed provincial standards

- b. Wastewater (e.g. treatment plants, storage tanks, collection systems)  
Wastewater projects must result in wastewater effluent that meets the Wastewater Systems Effluent
- c. Stormwater (e.g. management facilities, drainage pump stations)

Eligible project types include:

- a. Rehabilitation
- b. Replacement / upgrade
- c. Renewal

Staff considered three (3) different projects for this intake of the grant but two (2) of the projects, Gillies Bridge watermain crossing and Bridge Street Pumping Station were discounted given the closing date/time of the grant and the likelihood of hearing back on the Town's grant application in order to be able to tender the works in 2020. Based on the program guidelines, Staff feels that the Joseph Street Pumping Station would be the best project to propose for Intake 1 for the following reasons:

- This project is planned to be tendered in 2021 which provides ample time to hear back about the likelihood of funding under the grant program;
- The Town has its Condition Assessment of Pumping Stations which was completed by JL Richards on May 31, 2018 and the Joseph Street Pumping Station is noted as being in poor condition. It is the next pumping station identified as requiring work after the Bridge Street Pumping Station. The Town is required to refer to and submit as supporting documentation, at least one document in which the project is identified. The report identifies the project as needing to be completed in the next 2-3 years which would place it appropriately in 2021;
- Excellent arguments can be made with respect to health and safety issues and criticality of the project;
- The project cost at \$975,000 is significant so obtaining 73.33% grant funding towards the cost would assist the Town greatly.

Given the technical nature of the application and the work undertaken by JL Richards on the condition assessment, some technical assistance will be required by them to assist the Town with this application. Staff will complete as much of the application as it can before referring to JL Richards for assistance so as to minimize costs in this regard.

Applications will be accepted through the Grants Ontario website which is a "one-window" source for applicants, handling application intake, review, nomination, reporting and transfer payment management processes all in one place.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The estimated cost of this replacement/upgrade project for the Joseph Street pumping station is approximately \$975,000 taking into account increases in the construction price index since the report was produced. If the application is successful, the Town would receive 40% federal funding or \$390,000 of this amount and 33.33% provincial funding

or \$324,968. The Town would be responsible for 26.67% of the projects cost or \$260,032. The Town will apply for funding in accordance with the program's parameters.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. **THAT** Council authorize staff applying for the replacement/upgrade of the Joseph Street Pumping Station as the Town's priority under the Green Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.
2. **THAT** Council authorize staff seeking technical assistance from JL Richards as necessary for the Town's Green Stream Intake 1 application for the replacement/upgrade of the Joseph Street Pumping Station to ensure all of the technical issues are addressed appropriately in the application.