

REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT / MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY STUDY

Issue

The Alberta Community Partnership 2017/2018 application for the Regional Waste Management/Material Recovery Facility (MRF) Phase II Grant is provided for Council's consideration.

Motion Proposed by Administration

That the joint grant application for \$165,000 made by the Town of Okotoks as Managing Partner, under the Alberta Community Partnership 2017/2018 program, to support the collaborative development of a regional recycling and organic waste collections program and Regional Waste Management / Material Recovery Facility, be endorsed.

Report, Analysis and Financial Implications

This project builds on the initial study which focused on regional integration of resources for waste management within the region. This project (Phase II) will develop the framework, model and implementation plan for regional waste management. The first step involves a governance review of the Foothills Regional Services Commission (FRSC), which will determine the current authority of the Commission and what is needed in order to expand its mandate to regional waste management along with the Regional Landfill it already manages. Deliverables will include:

- Governance review of the Commission,
- Creating organizational structure for the management authority,
- Developing the service model to meet the needs of each member municipality (the MD of Foothills, and the Towns of High River, Turner Valley and Black Diamond),
- Completing an asset management inventory, and creating operational management models,
- Designing a collection model,
- Comparing the viability of owning a MRF versus transporting recyclables to facilities in Calgary over a 20-year period,
- Developing a 20-year MRF model, MRF design and Request For Proposal,
- Developing a communication plan for stakeholder engagement,
- Developing a program implementation plan for collection of garbage and recyclables in year one,
- Developing programs for processing and marketing of materials.

Accessing senior government funding through this grant application will enable the next step of this regional initiative to be performed by a consulting firm that possesses the expertise and workforce to complete the technical data analysis required for Phase II. Currently the Commission has limited financial resources and availability of staff to see this project through, and thus agreed that a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) would be comprised of municipal staff representing the interests of each municipality and report back to the Commission.

The project will complement and/or enhance existing garbage collection and disposal, universal recycling, organic waste and enhanced garbage collection programs, in addition to the establishment of a working model for a regional MRF. The desired outcome will encourage and support the partners to realize the targeted waste diversion rate of 80% away from the landfill by 2020. Partners will pool their respective resources to create a regional program that aligns with the FRSC mandate.

Strategic Plan Goals

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Manage Community Growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide Strong Governance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Provide Quality Community Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintain Organizational Excellence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Economic Vitality
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote Environmental Stewardship

Governing Policies/Bylaws/Legislation or Agreements

n/a

Public Engagement/Communication Strategy

n/a

Alternatives for Consideration

n/a

CAO Comments

All member municipalities are required to have resolutions passed by their Councils by February 8, 2018 for the grant application to be considered. I strongly support this intermunicipal collaboration to explore governance and service delivery options that are in the best interests of all municipalities.

Attachment(s)

n/a

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January 12, 2018