

To: Mayor and Council
From: Paul Gipps, CAO
Meeting Date: October 7, 2025
Meeting Type: Regular Council Meeting

Prepared by: Lauren Sanbrooks, Grant Funding Specialist
Department: Finance & Administration

Title: Strategic Priorities Fund 2025 – Updated Resolution
Description: Strategic Priorities Fund 2025 – Updated Resolution

RECOMMENDATION

THAT an application to the Strategic Priorities Fund for up to \$1,288,793, for design, permitting and construction of a pedestrian bridge, a multi-use pathway connecting Lake Country’s Town Centre across Middle Vernon Creek, and two pocket parks on Main Street, be supported;
 AND THAT staff be authorized to apply for, receive and manage the grant funding on behalf of the District of Lake Country;
 AND THAT if successful, the 2025-2029 Financial Plan be amended to include the receipt and expenditure of the grant funds;
 AND THAT any cost overruns to the project, be supported.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff previously received Council’s support to submit a \$1,288,793 funding application to the Strategic Priorities Fund, a provincial grant program delivered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) under the federal–provincial Canada Community Building Fund (formerly the Gas Tax Fund). If approved, the funding would support design, permitting and construction of a pedestrian bridge, a multi-use pathway across Middle Vernon Creek, and two pocket parks on Main Street, improving connections between the Town Centre, surrounding neighbourhoods, and key community amenities.

After the application was submitted, UBCM advised that the Council resolution must include a clause confirming responsibility for any cost overruns. As such, the updated resolution is being brought back for Council’s consideration.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

For further details on the application and project, please refer to the July 15, 2025, Regular Council Meeting report.

File Chronology

Date	Event
2025-07-15	Regular Council Meeting resolution 2025-07-15 THAT an application to the Strategic Priorities Fund for up to \$1,288,793, for design, permitting and construction of a pedestrian bridge, a multi-use pathway connecting Lake Country’s Town Centre across Middle Vernon Creek, and two pocket parks on Main Street, be supported; AND THAT staff be authorized to apply for, receive and manage the grant funding on behalf of the District of Lake Country. AND THAT if successful, the 2025-2029 Financial Plan be amended to include the receipt and expenditure of the grant funds.

Applicable legislation, bylaws and policies

Official Community Plan (2018-2023) Bylaw-1065

Policy 15.3.2b. Undertake a Trails Master Plan which builds upon the work undertaken in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, but further develops a connected trail network throughout the District, complete with trail standards, cost estimates and timing.

Policy 8.5.2b. Expand the pedestrian network by enhancing and building connecting sidewalks. The Town Centre, schools, and transit routes, community parks, and recreation facilities should be prioritized, i.e. neighbourhoods should connect to schools, parks and so on.

Strategic Priorities 2024

Infrastructure – *Well maintained infrastructure and facilities that meet community needs and allow growth and development for prosperity.*

Governance – *Fiscally sustainable government focused on strategic decision-making, transparency and inclusiveness.*

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None Budget Previously Approved Other (see below)

The grant request is for \$1,288,793, representing 73.3% of the total project cost (\$1,758,244). If the District is successful in securing this grant, the project could be delivered with less reliance on reserves—freeing up funding for other capital priorities such as mobility improvements, fire vehicles, and equipment.

COMMUNICATION

This report was referred to internal departments.

Respectfully Submitted.

Lauren Sanbrooks, Grant Funding Specialist

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Strategic Priorities Fund - Updated Resolution.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Oct 1, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Trevor James, CFO, Director of Finance & Administration - Sep 19, 2025 - 3:09 PM

Reyna Seabrook, Director of Corporate Services - Sep 19, 2025 - 3:24 PM

Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer - Oct 1, 2025 - 8:27 AM

Makayla Ablitt, Manager of Corporate Administration - Oct 1, 2025 - 12:23 PM