
MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
MEETING DATE: January 3, 2023
AUTHOR: Jared Kassel, Director of Planning & Development
DEPARTMENT: Planning and Development
ITEM TITLE: Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program
DESCRIPTION: Grant Application

QUESTION

Does Council support submission of a grant application to the Province of BC - Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation for Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) program?

OPTIONS

- A. THAT a grant application be submitted to the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation for creating an integrated land use, transportation and infrastructure plan that connects the Town Centre and Woodsdale neighborhoods.
- B. THAT a grant application NOT be submitted to the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation for creating an integrated land use, transportation and infrastructure plan that connects the Town Centre and Woodsdale neighborhoods.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Lake Country continues to grow, creating an expanding need to better define and establish an integrated land use, transportation and infrastructure plan that connects the Town Centre and Woodsdale neighborhoods. These 2 areas of the community are the commercial, institutional, recreational and cultural hubs of Lake Country and are currently experiencing significant growth pressure. This growth is expected to increase over the next several years with the development of numerous public and privately owned lands. The outcome of this proposed plan would be action-oriented and capitalize on existing opportunities and overcoming challenges. It would be a framework to ensure development takes place in a coordinated fashion enabling Town Center and Woodsdale to continue their transformation into a sustainable, diverse and vibrant place for both residents and visitors to Lake Country.

Designed with input from Lake Country residents and the broader business community, the plan will establish a coordinated vision that assists developers to understand community and District expectations prior to submitting development applications. It is anticipated that the plan will included a list of actional initiatives for future private and publicly-driven development. These expectations will be communicated between all parties, particularly when staff work with developers during the development application process, and when Council is asked to make decisions regarding development approvals.

KEY INFORMATION

In conjunction with the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Mobility Master Plan, a key deliverable of the project will be to enhance the development of the Town Centre as the commercial, institutional and cultural core of the community. In conjunction with Town Center development planning, a safe and connected corridor that links with the Woodsdale neighborhood will be envisioned and ultimately established. Discussions for the future of Woodsdale will likely include a plan for a mixed-use and walkable neighborhood supported by higher residential densities adjacent to Bottom Wood Lake and Woodsdale Roads. One of the purposes of this development vision

will be to preserve the surrounding rural and agricultural areas, and also protect and enhance the foreshore of Wood Lake with public access.

The Town Centre plan area can be defined in many ways, but for the purposes of this project it is anticipated that the Town Center will be defined as Main Street between Lodge Road to the north and Beaver Lake Road to the south. The Woodsdale neighborhood is bounded by Wood Lake to the immediate north, Lodge Road to the east, Highway 97 to the west, and property within the Agricultural Land Reserve to the south. The key transportation linkages between the neighborhoods are Bottom Wood Lake Rd. and the adjacent Highway 97 corridor.

DESIRED BENEFIT

Create a modern and integrated plan for Council, landowners and future developers that guides future development decisions and projects.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

Not applicable at this time.

IMPACT ON INFRASTRUCTURE OR MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Not applicable at this time.

IMPACT ON STAFF CAPACITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Planning and Economic Development staff will be required to project manage the scope of work, which would be awarded to a qualified consultant company. If the District is successful and receives the maximum amount of funding in the amount of \$100,000, the District would be required to pay 20% to a maximum of \$20,000. It is possible that the project scope will exceed the grant allotment, which will require additional funding from the District (details of this project costing will be further determined through a Request For Proposal bid process).

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Economic Development and Tourism Committee, local businesses along with interested community groups would play a significant role in developing the vision and plan for Town Center and Woodsdale Road.

ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Council can support the grant application for the project, or not support a grant application.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jared Kassel, Director of Planning & Development

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	REDIP Grant Application Approval.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Dec 16, 2022

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

Tanya Garost, Chief Administrative Officer - Dec 16, 2022 - 1:57 PM