



REPORT

REPORT TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

REPORT FROM: Amy Prueter, Acting Budget and Financial Reporting Supervisor

DATE: November 25, 2020

REPORT NO.: CORPSERV-2020-0041

RE: Capital Budget Status as at September 30, 2020

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. CORPSERV-2020-0041 dated November 25, 2020 regarding Capital Budget Status as at September 30, 2020 be received;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be authorized to close the Foreign Direct Investment Strategy capital project and transfer the remaining \$14,596 in the CanExport Community Investments program grant funding to the Economic Investment Attraction Fund capital project;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be authorized to transfer \$34,329 of unused funds from the Streetlight Replacement with Halton Hills Hydro project to the Streetlight and Pole Replacement project

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this report is to provide a status update on open capital projects as of September 30, 2020 from project managers. In addition, this report recommends changes to capital projects to maximize use of funding and provide efficiencies in management of the projects.

COMMENTS:

The Town has a comprehensive Capital Budget Governance Policy for the management of capital projects that was approved through report CORPSERV-2019-0008. The policy establishes financial controls that maintain public accountability and transparency while allowing flexibility to alter projects as circumstances change.

With regard to the status of capital projects, Appendix A provides a detailed 'life to date' report on open capital projects showing total funding and total expenditures as of September 30, 2020, as well as comments from the project manager.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, work on a number of capital projects was deferred to 2021 in order to help reduce spending and manage cashflows. These projects have been fully funded and will be ready to proceed in 2021 as noted in the comments in Appendix A. Staff will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID-19 and will make adjustments to the capital work plan as required.

Other projects have been completed during 2020 and have been identified as complete. These projects will be listed in the 2020 Completed Capital Projects report to Council after the year end review. The report will identify funding that can be returned, additional funding required, or the transfer of funds between similar projects. Currently there are sixty (60) capital projects that have been identified as complete and ready to be closed at the end of 2020.

On April 13, 2020 the Town received \$33,175 in funding as the final installment of Global Affairs Canada's CanExport Community Investments program grant. This grant was used to assist with the development of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Strategy and its implementation. With the completion of the FDI Strategy in February 2020 the capital project can be closed having used \$18,579 of the grant funding. Staff recommend transferring the remaining \$14,596 to the Economic Investment Attraction Fund capital project as implementation of the FDI Strategy continues.

The Streetlight Replacement with Halton Hills Hydro capital project has been an ongoing project that was approved in 2016. This project has the same scope as the Streetlight and Pole Replacement project which is also completed in cooperation with Halton Hills Hydro. Staff are recommending that the former project be closed and combined with the larger Streetlight and Pole Replacement project.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

The capital budget is used to support and advance Council's Strategic Priorities.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The recommendations in this report do not require additional funding at this time. Recommendations to fund capital projects identified for closure will be included with the 2020 Completed Capital Projects report in early 2021.

CONSULTATION:

All project managers were consulted on the status and progress of open projects.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

No public engagement required in reference to this report.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life.

The recommendation outlined in this report advances the Strategy's implementation.

This report supports all of the pillar of Sustainability and in summary the alignment of this report with the Community Sustainability Strategy is excellent.

COMMUNICATIONS:

There is no communications impact.

CONCLUSION:

Appendix A provides an informational update on 'life-to-date' spending on open capital projects as at September 30, 2020. In addition, staff is recommending the transfer of \$14,596 in grant funding from the FDI Strategy capital project to the Economic Investment Attraction Fund capital project to continue implementation of the FDI Strategy and the amalgamation of the Streetlight Replacement with Halton Hills Hydro project and the Streetlight and Pole Replacement project.

Reviewed and Approved by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Leighton".

Moya Jane Leighton, Town Treasurer and Director of Accounting

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Mills".

Chris Mills, Acting Chief Administrative Officer