

To: Chief Administrative Officer **Date:** March 21, 2022
From: Brendan Schneeberger, Planning Engineer
Subject: **Grant Application for Experience the Fraser Trail**

Recommendation

That Council support the submission of a Federal Active Transportation Fund Application under Planning and Design Projects (Grant Program), for a section of the Experience the Fraser Trail between approximately Gill/Duncan Avenue and Dyke Road.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to request Council support of one grant application.

Background

The Federal (Infrastructure Canada) Active Transportation Fund offers grants to support communities on projects related to the movement of people or goods powered by human activity, such as walking, cycling, use of wheelchairs, scooters, rollerblades, and more. For the Planning Projects category that this application would submit under, the maximum contribution amount payable is \$50,000. The intake deadline is March 31, 2022.

Discussion and Analysis

A joint developer-City project is currently in the planning and early design stage to provide the the Silverdale Comprehensive Planning Area (SCPA) with municipal servicing infrastructure by connecting to existing trunk mains in southern central Mission near the Fraser River and Highway 11. An outcome of the 2022 Utilities Master Plan, this is planned to be achieved by extending water and sanitary sewer trunk pipes from the western Waterfront area at Dyke Road, to the SCPA at approximately Silverdale Avenue and Loftus Street.

One goal of the above project is to build the foundation of the Experience the Fraser (ETF) trail with the pipes, along a portion at least 2 km long from approximately Gill/Duncan Ave to Dyke Road, which will already be cleared/prepared for the infrastructure. However, beyond a gravel corridor and new pedestrian bridge to hold the pipes, the joint developer-City team does not yet have the consulting resources to deliver the ETF trail-related aspects of the design in a fully complete form that should include items such as – but not limited to – wayfinding and safety signage, viewing areas, benches, fencing, and possible lighting. To date the draft partnership with the developer has been focused on the piped infrastructure.

Destination BC, a proponent for the ETF Trail system, has offered their grant writers to assist the City in submitting a grant application to cover the additional costs for designing trail-related aspects only. This portion of the project that the grant application seeks to cover is estimated to cost \$50,000, as the scope will be tailored in attempt to approximately match the maximum contribution.

Council Goals/Objectives

The Active Transportation Fund's program shares common goals with Council's strategic focus areas, particularly:

- Safe Community: to provide safe corridors for pedestrians and cyclists,
- Secure Finances, Assets and Infrastructure: to ensure well planned and financed public infrastructure, and
- Livable Complete Community: to meet the social and physical needs of the community, be attractive for living and playing, and expand recreation space for all ages.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report. The grant is for 100% funding so no cost share is required by the City, per the application guideline. If the grant request is denied, the City will not proceed with this portion of the design and planning project at this time.

Communication

No communication action is required.

Summary and Conclusion

This report is to request Council support to submit an Active Transportation Fund grant application to Infrastructure Canada by March 31, 2022, for design and planning a portion of the Experience the Fraser Trail between approximately Gill/Duncan Avenue and Dyke Road.

Report Prepared by: Brendan Schneeberger, Planning Engineer
Reviewed by: Allen Xu, Manager of Engineering Planning and Assets
Reviewed by: Tracy Kyle, Director of Engineering and Public Works
Approved for Inclusion: Mike Younie, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment

Attachment A: Map of Project's Anticipated Extent