

DATE: October 15, 2020**FILE:** 1700-02 / 2020/ 512**TO:** Chair and Directors
Regional District Board**FROM:** Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative OfficerSupported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer***R. Dyson*****RE: Regional Active Transportation Network Plan Grant Budget Amendment
(Regional Growth Strategy)****Purpose**

To recommend amendment of the 2021 financial plan for the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) service (function 512) to include a \$47,500 BC Active Transportation grant in support of the preparation of a regional Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP).

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:

THAT the 2020 – 2024 financial plan and capital expenditure program for the Regional Growth Strategy service (function 512) be amended to incorporate a BC Active Transportation Infrastructure grant in the amount of \$47,500 in 2021 for “other professional fees” in support of the preparation of a regional Active Transportation Network Plan.

Executive Summary

- In 2020, the Comox Valley Regional District Board and each member municipality endorsed an application to the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure grant program to prepare a regional active transportation network plan. The Board had previously included \$30,000 in the RGS budget in 2020 for completion of an Active Transportation Infrastructure gap analysis. The grant enables us to undertake a regional network plan that will include a gap analysis.
- The project is a collaborative effort to move the region closer to achieving Goal 4 of the RGS: “*Develop an accessible, efficient and affordable multi-modal transportation network that connects Core Settlement Areas and designated Town Centres, and links the Comox Valley to neighbouring communities and regions*”. Further, the project is part of our larger efforts to address the Board’s strategic priority of achieving an integrated, multi-modal transportation network.
- The project will support work on the regional poverty reduction strategy insofar as an accessible, affordable and diverse transportation system can be a catalyst in improving household affordability and reducing poverty.
- The ATNP project is underway with an active procurement process. Project partners will be primarily engaged through the RGS Technical Advisory Committee. The project will include targeted public engagement and will be complete in early spring 2021.

Prepared by:

A. Mullaly

Alana Mullaly, RPP, MCIP
Senior Manager of Sustainability and
Regional Growth Strategy

Concurrence:

S. Smith

Scott Smith, RPP, MCIP
General Manager of Planning and
Development Services Branch

Government Partners and Stakeholder Distribution (Upon Agenda Publication)

K'ómoks First Nation	✓
Village of Cumberland	✓
Town of Comox	✓
City of Courtenay	✓