

DATE: November 9, 2017**FILE:** 6130-01**TO:** Chair and Directors
Electoral Areas Services Committee**FROM:** Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative OfficerSupported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer***R. Dyson*****RE:** North Courtenay Connector – Piercy Road Trail Update

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek a budget amendment for completing the Piercy Road trail section of the North Courtenay connector and inform directors a permit has been received for the project.

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer

THAT the 2017-2021 financial plan and capital expenditure program for the Baynes Sound, Area B and C Parks and Greenways Service (621) be amended by increasing land improvements in 2017 by \$200,000 to be funded by \$100,000 in community works funds from Lazo North (Electoral Area B) and \$100,000 in community works funds from Puntledge-Black Creek (Electoral Area C) for the capital construction costs of the roadside gravel path along the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's north connector project.

Executive Summary

Construction for the North Courtenay connector is nearing an end and the roadway is open to the public. Substantial completion has been reached on the pathway components related to Comox Valley Regional District's (CVRD) trail construction.

At the March 23, 2017, in-camera board meeting a report was presented that outlined the benefits of the off-road greenway. As a result, the Electoral Area B and Electoral Area C directors each committed \$100,000 towards the project. In July 2017 the CVRD entered into an agreement with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) for the construction of the trail for a projected cost of \$195,528, satisfying the construction contract requirements. In November 2017 the CVRD received a permit for the trail from MOTI satisfying the March 23, 2017, condition to rise and report on the project.

The CVRD will receive an invoice from MOTI after final project completion for a sum of not more than \$200,000. A budget amendment is required to authorize funding for the forthcoming invoice.

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Stakeholder Distribution (Upon Agenda Publication)

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (Courtenay Office)	
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (Regional Office)	

Policy Analysis

The Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) transportation road network plan, 2014, speaks to investing equitably in transportation services and infrastructure. This extra gravelled trail will encourage active transportation options on the Island that are safe, convenient and comfortable.

The rural Comox Valley parks and greenways strategic plan, 2011, includes the following policy statements:

Objective 3.1: Decrease reliance on motorized vehicles and encourage active lifestyles by establishing a network of multi-use trails.

Objective 3.2: Provide continuous hiking, biking and horseback riding trails that connect community centres and greenspaces in the valley. Note: This trail would be a vital connection for the equestrian community linking the Dove Creek area to the CVRD exhibition grounds.

Objective 4.1: Ensure accessibility of parks and greenways for park visitors (e.g. Safe access to the park or greenway along roadways, adequate parking, safe road and bridge crossings, wheelchair accessibility where feasible, etc.)

Objective 4.4: Recognize opportunities and be proactive in planning and management.

On March 23, 2017, the board endorsed the following resolution:

THAT up to \$100,000 be committed from Lazo North (Electoral Area B) and up to \$100,000 be committed from Puntledge-Black Creek (Electoral Area C) community works fund to fund the capital costs required to construct a gravelled roadside path in conjunction with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's Courtenay north connector project;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to obtain a permit from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for a roadside trail along the north Courtenay connector;

AND FURTHER THAT the board rise and report on this Courtenay north connector/Piercy Road trail project after the Comox Valley Regional District has received the permit from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

AND FINALLY THAT staff report back to the electoral areas service committee with recommendations for contract award to complete the works and a 2017-2021 financial plan amendment.