

NO: F016

COUNCIL DATE: June 21, 2010

FINANCE COMMITTEE

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **June 15th, 2010**

FROM: **General Manager, Finance & Technology**

FILE: **1850-01**

SUBJECT: **Community Enhancement Partnership Program Grants**

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance & Technology Department recommends that the Finance Committee recommend that Council:

1. Approve a grant of up to \$1,800 to the East Panorama Ridge Community Association for the development of a community entrance feature at the corner of 148th Street and 55 Avenue, a community clean-up and a community celebration hosted in Bob Rutledge Park as generally described in this report and subject to the conditions noted in this report; and
2. Approve a grant of up to \$1,500 to the Riverdale Junior Leadership Group for a graffiti paint-out and preventative landscaping project at 14835 – 108A Avenue as generally described in this report and subject to the conditions noted in this report.

BACKGROUND

In January of this year Council adopted the Community Enhancement Partnership Program (CEPP), which is intended to provide support for community engagement and beautification projects. Under CEPP, a resident group or organization may apply to the City for a grant under either of two grant categories:

- **Small Project Grants** - to assist resident groups in planning, organizing and implementing projects intended to directly improve the physical aesthetic appeal of a neighbourhood; or
- **Partnership Grants** - to support resident organizations that build community relationships through celebration and activities.

The CEPP was allocated a 2010 budget of \$25,000.

The community was notified of this new program through stakeholder mail-outs, newspaper ads, press releases, promotional posters at civic facilities and on the City's website. A grant selections committee was established with representatives from various departments and has been assessing grant applications on an ongoing basis. Council has approved several CEPP grants to date in 2010 as noted in Appendix I.

DISCUSSION

East Panorama Ridge Community Association

The residents of the East Panorama Ridge Community Association have applied for two grants to enhance and celebrate their community for a total grant request of \$1,800.

The first application is for a Small Project Grant of \$1,200 to support the development of a community entrance sign at the corner of 148th Street and 55 Avenue. The area is currently a roadside grass boulevard. The proposed work includes the installation of a small format wooden sign with the words 'East Panorama Ridge Community' on the sign and with complimentary landscaping around the sign including shrubs and annuals. The residents have committed to contributing volunteer time, materials and equipment to complete the project and have committed to the on-going maintenance of the project. The community entrance feature has a construction value of \$2,500 if the work were to be carried out by a commercial contractor.

The second application is for a partnership grant of \$600 to support a community clean-up and a related community celebration hosted in Bob Rutledge Park. The event, scheduled for July 1, will include a community wide garbage and graffiti clean-up campaign with a follow-up BBQ and community celebration in the Park. The residents have committed to coordinate the event and have committed an equal value of volunteer labour towards the clean-up efforts. It is estimated that the community clean-up and celebration has a value of \$1,520.

Based on an evaluation of the projects using adopted CEPP criteria, it is recommended that both grants be approved for a total grant amount of up to \$1,800. The following conditions will apply to the grants:

- The provision of a letter to the Engineering Department confirming the East Panorama Ridge Community Association's commitment to the maintenance of the proposed neighbourhood entrance sign and landscaping; and
- The submission of photographs documenting the progress of both the entrance feature and community clean-up projects, including photographs before, during and upon completion of each project.

Riverdale Junior Leadership Group

Riverdale Elementary school is located adjacent to Riverside Park. School staff, neighbourhood residents and students have identified a number of fences surrounding the park and school that are prone to graffiti. The Riverdale Junior Leadership Group, with support from parents and teachers at Riverdale Elementary School and the Surrey Crime Prevention Society has identified these locations as a potential project for the group. The group holds the view that the removal and prevention of graffiti on these fences will improve the appearance of the community while creating an opportunity for community building. The proposed work includes the painting of fences to remove graffiti and the planting of small shrubs and ground cover to deter future graffiti on the fences. The owners of the fences have signed letters indicating that the work may be undertaken and the Riverdale Junior Leadership Group has committed to volunteering 150 hours of time towards the project. The Riverdale Elementary School gardening club has committed to the on-going maintenance of all landscaping. Based on City estimates, the project has a value of

\$3,450 and will improve the appearance of the community and will involve youth in constructive activities..

Based on an evaluation of the project using adopted CEPP criteria, it is recommended that a grant of up to \$1,500 be provided to the Riverdale Junior Leadership Group, care of Elaine Busby, Riverdale Elementary librarian and project liaison. The following conditions will apply to the grant:

- The provision of a letter to Parks Operations (North) confirming the Riverdale Elementary gardening club's commitment to the on-going maintenance of the proposed landscaping features; and
- The submission of photographs documenting the progress of the project, including photographs before, during and upon completion of the project.

Funding

Appendix I provides information on the status of funding related to the Community Enhancement Partnership Program on the assumption that Council will approve the recommendations contained in this report.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The CEPP Program supports the Sustainability Charter by encouraging social connections, volunteerism, community ownership and citizen engagement, as per Specific Goals SC 6, 7, 8 and 13.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that the Finance Committee recommend that Council:

1. Approve a grant of up to \$1,800 to the East Panorama Ridge Community Association for the development of a community entrance feature at the corner of 148th Street and 55 Avenue, a community clean-up and a community celebration hosted in Bob Rutledge Park as generally described in this report and subject to the conditions noted in this report; and
2. Approve a grant of up to \$1,500 to the Riverdale Junior Leadership Group for a graffiti paint-out and preventative landscaping project at 14835 – 108A Avenue as generally described in this report.

Vivienne Wilke, CGA
General Manager,
Finance & Technology



2010 FINANCIAL PLAN
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Description	Amount	Allocation to Date	Remaining
2009 Budget Allocation	\$ 25,000.00		
2010 Budget Allocation	<u>\$ 25,000.00</u>		\$ 50,000.00
Rotary Club of Surrey (May 17, 2010)	\$ 3,000.00		
Halls Prairie Elementary School Parent Advisory Committee	\$ 1,000.00		
Lexington Townhouse Development	\$ 3,000.00		
Lakebridge Townhouse Complex	\$ 1,500.00		
Riverdale Junior Leadership Group	\$ 1,500.00		
East Panarama Ridge Community Association - Partnership	\$ 600.00		
East Panarama Ridge Community Association - Small Projects	\$ 1,200.00		
Allocations for 2010		<u>\$ 11,800.00</u>	<u>\$ 38,200.00</u>