

NO: F025

COUNCIL DATE: December 13, 2010

FINANCE COMMITTEE

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **December 6, 2010**

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

FILE: **1850-01**

SUBJECT: **Grants Under the Community Enhancement Partnership Program**

RECOMMENDATION

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

1. Approve a grant of \$3,000 to the Surrey Crime Prevention Society to support the student mural project on the exterior entrance to the Newton Recreation Centre preschool as generally described in this report; and
2. Approve a grant of \$2,000 to AHP Matthew Elementary School Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) to support a boulevard beautification and community signage project on 97th Avenue between 132nd and 134th Streets as generally described in this report.

BACKGROUND

In January 2010 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 separate 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 and encourage beautification through celebration and activity.

The CEPP has an annual 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 seven CEPP grants to date.

DISCUSSION

Surrey Crime Prevention Society

The Surrey Crime Prevention Society (SCPS) operates the Surrey Spirit of Youth Mural Program, a program that contributes to the development of community art and provides resume credentials and employment opportunities for artistic youth. Through this program, SCPS partners with Surrey youth and other organizations in the community to create murals at prominent locations. The program has enriched the aesthetics of the City through the creation of over 60 artistic art-works. Art-work themes have focused on multiculturalism, history and heritage, the environment, and sports and leisure.

In 2010, SCPS proposed a mural project at the entrance to the Newton Recreation Centre Preschool, in partnership with Human Resources Development Canada and the Surrey School District. The project, now completed, ran for eight weeks through July and August 2010 and included eleven student artists. Students undertook the design and painting of the art works. Project leaders were responsible for all logistics including seeking approvals of the design concept, site preparation and project management. A mural advisory team provided mentoring for the students while another advisory team provided advice on art techniques. The project mentor was Marc Pelech, who has been recognized as a City Treasure for his work in the arts community.

SCPS provided oversight including the accounting services associated with the project. The total project cost was \$26,490, including wages for students, materials and supplies. Funding for the project was provided by HRDC (\$15,680) and SCPS (\$10,810). SCPS is applying for a \$3,000 CEPP grant to offset some of the costs incurred by the Society. Assuming the award of the grant, SCPS's contribution would be reduced to \$7,810 which would serve as the community matching funds.

Grants under the Program are not intended to be provided after the completion of the project; however, based on a review of the project against CEPP criteria, the fact that the project was focused on enhancements to a civic building and engaged youth in positive activity, it is recommended that a grant of \$3000 be approved. It is further recommended that staff be instructed to advise the SCPS that the City will not consider any future applications for grants if the project to which the application relates is already completed.

AHP Matthew Elementary School PAC

AHP Matthew Elementary school is located on 97th Avenue between 133rd and 134th Streets. The planting in the boulevard on the street in front of the school (97 Ave) is worn and needs replacing. Neighbourhood residents and students have also identified a number of areas that are prone to graffiti and garbage accumulation.

The school's Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) has applied, with support from neighbours and teachers at AHP Matthew Elementary, for a grant to address the appearance of the 97 Avenue boulevard by installing landscaping and undertaking a general clean-up of the area. The group also intends to remove graffiti in the area. The project will build civic pride and community spirit in the area.

The proposed work includes the removal of garbage, site preparation, the purchase and placement of soil and the planting of a range of native shrubs and bulbs. The project also proposes the development of a community information sign on-site to provide information to the community on the activities at the school and in the neighbourhood. The majority of the work would take place on the 97th Avenue boulevard.

Students, parents and teachers will be involved in this project. It is estimated that the project will take more than 100 hours of volunteer labour and a cash investment of \$2,000.

The PAC is requesting a CEPP “small projects” grant of \$3,000.

Based on City estimates, the project has a value in excess of \$4,000 and will improve the appearance of the community and will build civic pride and community spirit. The AHP Matthew Elementary School has committed to the long term maintenance of all landscaping.

Based on a review of the project against CEPP criteria, it is recommended that a grant of \$2,000 be provided to the AHP Matthew Elementary School PAC subject to the following conditions:

- The provision of a letter to the Engineering Operations Division confirming that AHP Matthew Elementary School will maintain the landscaping features on 97 Ave on an on-going basis; 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 approves the recommendations of this report.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

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

CONCLUSION

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

- Approve a grant of \$3,000 to the Surrey Crime Prevention Society to support the student mural project on the exterior entrance to the Newton Recreation Centre preschool as generally described in this report; and
- Approve a grant of \$2,000 to AHP Matthew Elementary School PAC to support a boulevard beautification and community signage project on 97th Avenue between 133 and 134 Streets as generally described in this report.

Vivienne Wilke, CGA
General Manager
Finance & Technology



2010 FINANCIAL PLAN
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Description	Allocation to		
	Amount	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		
Surrey Crime Prevention Society	3,000.00		
AHP Matthew Elementary School PAC	2,000.00		
Allocations for 2010		<u>\$ 16,800.00</u>	<u>\$ 33,200.00</u>