

NO: R095

COUNCIL DATE: May 7, 2018

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **May 7, 2018**

FROM: **Fire Chief**

FILE: **7130-40**

SUBJECT: **Application for a UBCM Emergency Operations Centres & Training Grant**

RECOMMENDATION

The Surrey Fire Service recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Approve the submission of an application to the *Community Emergency Preparedness Fund* (CEPF) for the Emergency Operations Centres & Training grant of \$25,000 to supplement the resources of the City's secondary Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and provide training opportunities in it.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for the City to submit an application for a grant to the CEPF. The grant application is to resource and outfit a secondary Emergency Operations Centre that has been prepared at the Engineering Operations Centre, to serve as a reliable backup in the event that the primary EOC becomes compromised during a disaster. In addition, the grant application also requests funding to support the training of staff and volunteers in relation to setting up and operating within the secondary EOC. Council approval of such an application is a requirement of CEPF application criteria.

BACKGROUND

The CEPF is a suite of funding programs intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments and their residents in responding to emergencies. Funding is provided by the Province of BC and is administered by Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM).

DISCUSSION

Under the Emergency Program Act, municipalities, First Nation communities and regional districts are responsible for responding to emergencies in their area. This includes providing a Local Emergency plan and the training for all emergency response staff to whom responsibilities are assigned in the plan. The Emergency Plan follows the model of Incident Command and requires an Emergency Operations Centre. This is a physical location where representatives come together during an emergency to coordinate response and recovery actions and resources, support

emergency response personnel in the field, and coordinate all official communications regarding the emergency.

The Surrey Emergency Program has prepared an application for the maximum available funding in the amount of \$25,000 from the CEPF. The Grant will be utilized to further outfit the secondary Emergency Operations Centre at the City Engineering Operations Yard and provide training opportunities to City staff in that environment. The Surrey Emergency Program will provide these resources and training to the standards set according to Emergency Management of BC and use this facility to train City Staff that have been identified as being a key stakeholder and have a vital role within the Surrey Emergency Plan.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

This initiative relates to the Sustainability Charter theme of Public Safety. Specifically the initiative supports the following Desired Outcomes (DO) and Strategic Directions (SD):

- Community Safety and Emergency Services DO5: Surrey is recognized and perceived as a leader in establishing and maintaining collaborative partnerships for community safety and well-being.
- Emergency Preparedness and Prevention DO6: Surrey has proactive and coordinated emergency prevention measures in place, and can effectively deal with emergencies that arise.
- Emergency Preparedness and Prevention DO7: Residents, businesses and institutions are empowered and prepared to respond effectively during times of emergency.
- Emergency Preparedness and Prevention DO8: The community's critical infrastructure and systems are designed to withstand climate change impacts and natural events and disasters, and include emergency response and reconstruction plans.
- Community Safety and Emergency Services SD2: Increase community engagement and mobilization in order to enhance personal and public safety.
- Community Safety and Emergency Services SD3: Ensure programs, policies and initiatives exist along the public safety continuum, and support the entire community.
- Community Safety and Emergency Services SD4: Enhance intergovernmental relations, and ensure broad partnerships and collaboration to address multijurisdictional social issues (e.g., homelessness, mental health, addictions, etc.).
- Emergency Preparedness and Prevention SD5: Build community resilience and capacity to respond effectively in an emergency.
- Emergency Preparedness and Prevention SD6: Promote development types and locations that will be minimally impacted by natural disasters.
- Emergency Preparedness and Prevention SD7: Strengthen and lead in localized emergency planning and response, including updating and developing needed recovery plans.

CONCLUSION

The Surrey Fire Service recommends that Council approve the submission of an application to the *Community Emergency Preparedness Fund* (CEPF) for the Emergency Operations Centres & Training grant of \$25,000 to supplement the resources of the City's secondary Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and provide training opportunities in it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Len Garis". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Len Garis
Fire Chief