

NO: R157

COUNCIL DATE: July 23, 2018

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## REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **July 4, 2018**

FROM: **City Manager**

FILE: **0250-03**

SUBJECT: **FCM Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities Partnership Update**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager's Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Approve the second international City exchange mission for City of Surrey staff to visit King Sabata Dalindegbo expected in Early 2019.

## INTENT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update of the City of Surrey's partnership with King Sabata Dalindegbo Local Municipality through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities (BIGM) project.

## BACKGROUND

In 2017, the FCM launched a \$5.8 million, 5-year initiative to support green infrastructure, trade and economic growth in South Africa's municipalities. The initiative is funded by Global Affairs Canada.

On July 10, 2017, Council approved Corporate Report No. R140; 2017(Appendix "I") authorizing staff to participate in the FCM BIGM initiative in South Africa from 2017 to 2020. The City of Surrey was subsequently selected as one of 6 Canadian municipalities to assist cities in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa in reducing poverty through local economic development for women, youth, and vulnerable populations through staff-level capacity building. The City of Surrey through this process was partnered with King Sabata Dalindegbo Local Municipality (KSD) to execute this program.

In October 2017, three city staff visited KSD between October 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to initiate the partnership and conduct a high level assessment of KSD's current economic state, and participate in a series of workshops facilitated by FCM and the South Africa Local Government Association (SALGA).

Representatives from KSD and SALGA subsequently visited to the City of Surrey from November 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 led by their Executive Mayor Zozo, the KSD Speaker and their Director of

Economic Development. As part of this partnership, the Federal government through the FCM will be facilitating two additional bi-lateral study visits between KSD and the City of Surrey.

## **DISCUSSION**

Following KSD's visit to the City of Surrey, Surrey's Economic Development and Social Planning staff conducted a comprehensive review of key documents provided by KSD, and completed a municipal diagnostic of KSD's current economic development efforts. Concluded through this joint assessment, it was agreed that the City of Surrey would support KSD with the following activities:

- 1) Complete a local economic development strategy aimed at supporting women and youth;
- 2) Provide operational capacity building in the areas of business visitation, entrepreneurship, communications and marketing, and engagement and partnership development with key community stakeholders;
- 3) Deploy user-friendly entrepreneurship toolkits for women and youth in KSD using existing collateral developed by the City of Surrey and community business partners; and
- 4) Explore opportunities for how the local government could support KSD's informal economy (traders, street hawkers, etc.).

### **KSD Delegation to the City of Surrey - Fall 2018**

The likely next phase of the City of Surrey and KSD's partnership includes working with KSD, FCM, and SALGA to host a KSD staff delegation at the City of Surrey potentially sometime in the Fall of 2018 for one week. The purpose of this mission will be to finalize a draft local economic development strategy for KSD with a focus on women and youth economic empowerment. The objective of this mission will be to provide KSD's economic development staff with hands-on training on how the City of Surrey currently conducts its business visitation program and how we facilitate meaningful partnerships with community organizations and partners. As well, half-day workshops will be conducted on topics such as marketing and communications, entrepreneurship, and co-operatives. The focus of these discussions will be on the role of municipalities in supporting local economic development. By the end of their week, KSD staff should leave with a working strategic plan that will guide activities for the rest of the partnership.

### **City of Surrey Delegation to KSD- Early 2019**

Three staff members including the City Manager from the City of Surrey are planning to return to KSD in January 2019 for one week to perform in-country support, monitor project progress and also work directly with KSD staff to design and implement projects as part of the BIGM program. As part of this mission, it is expected that City of Surrey staff will also have an opportunity to learn about KSD's existing operations and participate in a number of local business visits with KSD economic development staff.

### **Training and Support for the City of Surrey**

Similar to the first phase of the partnership, FCM, through funding from Global Affairs Canada will cover participant travel, accommodation and meal expenses.

While FCM has run international development projects around the world for at least three decades, this is the first formal international development mission the City of Surrey has

undertaken. City of Surrey staff have gained invaluable experience and insight on cross-cultural partnership development, international development operations, and managing projects to solve complex socio-economic problems.

Throughout this process, FCM has provided significant support for the City of Surrey in executing and building our partnership with KSD. City of Surrey staff have participated in workshops hosted in Ottawa to network and learn from other Canadian cities participating in the BIGM program. There will be another FCM training workshop for City of Surrey staff in October 2018.

## **SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

The FCM BIGM program is aligned with the following Sustainability Charter 2.0 desired outcomes (DO) and strategic directions (SD):

- Inclusion DO 2: Surrey welcomes, includes, embraces and values the diversity of people who live here.
- Inclusion DO 3: Residents have opportunities to build social connections with people from different backgrounds.
- Inclusion SD 15: Work at the neighbourhood level to empower local clubs, groups, individuals and agencies to contribute to a vibrant community.
- Inclusion SD 20: Foster a culture of collaboration and the generation of new ideas and methods for solving complex social issues.
- Public Safety DO 5: Surrey is recognized and perceived as a leader in establishing and maintaining collaborative partnerships for community safety and well-being.

## **CONCLUSION**

The City Manager's Department recommends: that Council:

1. Receive this report for information;
2. Approve the second international City exchange mission for City of Surrey staff to visit King Sabata Dalindegbo expected in Early 2019.

Vincent Lalonde, P.Eng  
City Manager

Appendix "1" Corporate Report No. R140; 2017 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities – South Africa

# CORPORATE REPORT

NO: **R140**

COUNCIL DATE: **July 10, 2017**

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## REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

FROM: **City Manager**

FILE: **0250-03**

SUBJECT: **Federation of Canadian Municipalities Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities – South Africa**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager's Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Approve City of Surrey's participation in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities Initiative in South Africa taking place between 2017-2020.

## INTENT

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval for the City of Surrey to participate in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities Initiative in South Africa between 2017- 2020.

## BACKGROUND

In 2017, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities ('FCM') launched a \$5.8 million, five-year initiative to support green infrastructure, trade and economic growth in South Africa's municipalities. Funding includes a \$4.9 million contribution from Global Affairs Canada as well as in-kind contributions from Canadian and South African municipalities.

The current program being implemented includes the Building Inclusive Green Municipalities ('BIGM') project in partnership with the South African Local Government Association ('SALGA'). The Building Inclusive Green Municipalities initiative bolsters ongoing efforts to stimulate local economies and modernize infrastructure and will run from 2017-2020.

The implementation of the BIGM project will involve six (6) Canadian municipal partners (municipalities) to assist small and medium-sized municipalities in the Eastern Cape Province, in South Africa. Three (3) municipalities will be required to work on Local Economic Development projects and three (3) municipalities will be required to work on Asset Management while integrating climate change adaptation measures. All six partnering South African municipalities are located along the coastline.

## DISCUSSION

FCM has identified local economic development and asset management/climate change adaptation as key focus areas for this international partnership. For this project, FCM is specifically looking for mid-sized Canadian cities to participate. As a recognized global leader in smart cities excellence with expert municipal practitioners across all City departments, the City of Surrey is prepared to respond to FCM's requests.

In fact, a number of existing Surrey programs could be scaled for application by our potential South African partners and include the following:

- **Responsive business capacity building programs** - Surrey staff are experts at developing responsive business capacity building programming for local businesses and organizations to create competitive business communities. Some examples of these programs and initiatives include: SparkBIZ, our market intelligence-driven business outreach program, as well as FarmableNow, a program aimed to teach aspiring farmers essential business skills and connect them to available farmland in the City using an "AirBnB" model.
- **The Somali Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Project**- a pilot project that used a community economic development approach to develop the skills and entrepreneurial experience of a group of refugee women facing multiple-barriers to traditional employment programs and paid work. The project was guided by an advisory committee of women and has resulted in the creation of a local "Women 4 Women" foundation.
- **The City's Community Climate Action Strategy**, approved in 2013, which included the Climate Adaptation Strategy that identified key risks and priority actions to prepare for the impacts of climate change. For Surrey, the highest priority risk is flooding and sea level rise which are similar challenges identified by the South African municipalities.
- **The Coastal Flood Adaptation Strategy (CFAS)**, which will help prepare Surrey for a changing climate and help our coastal communities become more resilient. Findings from the participatory planning process developed for CFAS should be directly transferable to coastal South African municipalities to inform their sea level rise planning and adaptation. This partnership will share and build on global expertise already received from the Netherlands for CFAS.
- **Asset management Plan**- The City's Engineering Department has recently developed an asset management vision, adopted an asset management framework, and is currently developing various asset management plans involving condition assessment frameworks, risk assessment frameworks, as well as level of service assessments.

### Program Benefits for the City of Surrey

Through participation in FCM's programs, Canadian municipalities are able to learn about the issues that overseas municipalities face. Ties with other localities help overseas municipalities find suitable solutions to issues that transcend borders, such as stimulating local economic development, asset management, climate change adaptation and mitigation issues, youth programming, green economy, trade and/or recovering from natural disasters, etc. The personal

enrichment from international experience would allow municipal staff to see their work from another perspective.

### **City of Surrey Role and Responsibilities**

While FCM, through funding from Global Affairs Canada will cover all participant travel, accommodation and meal expenses, the City will be expected to:

- Be willing to engage in an institutional relationship, including passing a council resolution, with their overseas partner over a period of three years;
- Commit to a minimum level of effort/in-kind contribution from staff/council (approx. 2 two-week missions per year, in addition to hosting study visits and long-distance support between missions);
- Be willing to host delegations from the overseas partner municipality; and
- Be willing to source, within its staff/council, a lead coordinator and team of experts that will work together on project objectives (technical assistance, knowledge sharing, Canadian community engagement, etc.).

A number of City departments have been identified for participation in this program including Engineering, Planning & Development, and Investment & Intergovernmental Relations. The particular makeup of the City staff team will be identified once FCM approves the City's application and a scope of work is jointly identified.

### **SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

The FCM Building Green Inclusive Communities program is aligned with the following Sustainability Charter desired outcomes (DO) and strategic directions (SD):

- Inclusion DO 2: Surrey welcomes, includes, embraces and values the diversity of people who live here.
- Inclusion DO 3: Residents have opportunities to build social connections with people from different backgrounds.
- Inclusion SD 15: Work at the neighbourhood level to empower local clubs, groups, individuals and agencies to contribute to a vibrant community.
- Inclusion SD 20: Foster a culture of collaboration and the generation of new ideas and methods for solving complex social issues.
- Public Safety DO 5: Surrey is recognized and perceived as a leader in establishing and maintaining collaborative partnerships for community safety and well-being.

## CONCLUSION

The City Manager's Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Approve City of Surrey participation in the FCM Building Inclusive & Green Municipalities Initiative in South Africa between 2017-2020.



Vincent Lalonde, P.Eng  
City Manager

Appendix 1 – Project Brief from FCM on Building Inclusive Green Municipalities (BIGM) Partnerships (Appendices Available Upon Request)