

**CANADA ONTARIO MUNICIPAL RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE (COMRIF)
APPLICATION - 2007 CAPITAL PRE-BUDGET APPROVAL**

Recommendation

The Director of Reserves & Investments in consultation with the Commissioner of Finance & Corporate Services recommends;

1. That the 2007 Capital Budget request Project# EN-1650-07 COMRIF – Baldwin Avenue Culvert Rehabilitation in the amount of \$450,000 be pre-approved in order to commence the Environmental Assessment that is required to comply with the COMRIF Funding Agreement and ensure compliance with the submitted project schedule (milestones).
2. That the inclusion of the matter on a public committee or Council agenda for the pre-budget approval for this COMRIF project is deemed sufficient notice pursuant to Section 2(1)(c) of By-Law 394-2002.

Economic Impact

There will be an economic impact of \$160,000 required from long term debt. Approximately \$290,000 will be funded from the Federal and Provincial governments.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek pre-budget approval for capital project EN-1650-07 COMRIF – Baldwin Avenue Culvert so that the necessary information can be compiled and comply with the COMRIF Funding Agreement.

Background - Analysis and Options

On September 11, 2006, Council approved the Bridge Rehabilitation application in the amount of \$2,089,000 under Intake Three of the Canada Ontario Municipal Rural Infrastructure (COMRIF) funding program. The application was for three locations: Humber Bridge Trail Bridge, Baldwin Avenue Culvert and the Peelar Road Culvert. On January 10th, 2007 COMRIF announced that they would contribute 2/3 funding for rehabilitation of the Baldwin Avenue Culvert for eligible costs up to \$433,000.

This funding is contingent on compliance with certain requirements as stated in the funding agreement. The federal portion of the funding is contingent on a Federal Environmental Assessment (EA) in addition to any provincial or municipal class EAs which may already have been completed. In order to complete these requirements, a competitive bid process is required to hire an external consultant.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council specifically Vaughan Vision 2.3.2 Enhance Non-Tax Revenue – Evaluate/increase grants and subsidies from external agencies.

Conclusion

In order to start preparing information required under the COMRIF funding agreement (environmental assessments, communications) it would be appropriate to pre-approve this 2007 capital budget request.

Should Council concur with the proposed pre-budget approval request, this action would be considered an adoption in part of the 2007 Capital Budget. Pursuant to the Municipal Act, a municipality shall give notice of its intention to adopt a budget at a Council meeting. As this project is time sensitive and as the project application was approved by Council in 2006, the inclusion of the matter on a staff report requesting pre-budget approval in part of the 2007 Capital Budget on a public committee or Council agenda is deemed sufficient notice pursuant to Section 2 (1)(c) of By-Law 394-2002. Therefore, no additional notice period is required.

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Respectfully submitted,

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