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TO: His Worship Mayor Harrison and Members of Council  
FROM: Robert Niewenhuizen, Director of Engineering and Public Works  
PREPARED BY: Jennifer Wilson, Service Delivery Management Coordinator  
DATE: September 18, 2023  
SUBJECT: **BC Active Transportation Network Planning Grant 2023**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT:** The 2023 Budget contained in the 2023 - 2027 Financial Plan Bylaw be amended to include \$685,000.00 for the Downtown to Uptown Connection (6 Ave – 20 Street NE) project, to be funded from the following sources:

\$245,000	16 Ave NE (10Ave – 16 St NE) - MUP
\$411,000	BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant
\$ 29,000	Active Transportation Reserve

**AND THAT:** Council authorize submission of a grant application under the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant for the Downtown to Uptown Connection (6 Ave – 20 Street NE), for an amount of \$411,000 of the estimated full project cost of \$685,000 plus taxes;

**BACKGROUND:**

The Government of Canada and Province of BC have recently announced a new intake for applications for the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program (BCAT-IGP).

The BCAT-IGP is to help develop Active Transportation Networks to support active transportation for all ages and abilities. This program is in support of the Clean BC roadmap and is aimed at supporting mode-shift from vehicles to Active Transportation. Funding is available up to a maximum 60% cost-share or \$500,000 whichever is less. Municipalities may apply for up to two projects.

The application deadline for grant applications is **October 27, 2023**.

The Active Transportation Plan identified eleven (11) major priority projects, of which, several have portions of the project in the design phase as listed below:

**Project B – Downtown to Uptown Connection:** The replacement of the sidewalk with a multi-use path from 6 Avenue NE to 20 Street NE has been partially funded by Council and subject to previous grant applications. This is an almost shovel ready project that would benefit from grant funding by increasing the scope significantly.

**Project C – 20 Avenue & Lakeshore Road Downtown Connection:** The installation of a multi-use path from 10 Avenue NE to 20 Street NE along Lakeshore Road is in the process of detailed design. This almost shovel ready project requires Council to fund the Lakeshore Road improvements in order for the Active Transportation Corridor to be completed.

**Project E – 10 Avenue SW Multi-use Pathway:** Several developments have been occurring along this stretch of road, a portion of Multi-use path is undergoing detailed design and connections to the west have been constructed through the Ministry of Transportation highway upgrades. However, to create a significant project at this time would be difficult due to property acquisition issues and linked stormwater upgrades.

**Project J – Hillcrest/South Broadview Active Transportation Connections:** The detailed design for the section of this project between foothills road and 10 Street NE has been completed; however, this almost shovel ready project requires Council to fund the Auto Road Connector construction in order for the Active Transportation Corridor to be completed.

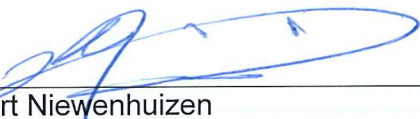
**Project K – West Bay Connector Trail:** The planning for this project is underway; however, the project is not shovel ready at this time.

## STAFF COMMENTS

Based on a review of the projects above, staff recommend submitting an application for funding to the 2023 BCAT-IGP for the portion of Project B – Downtown to Uptown Connection located between 6 Avenue NE to 20 Street NE. The available grant funding would be \$411,000. Staff intend to use the 2023 budget to complete the detailed design of the project in order to be well positioned to complete the work in a timely manner.

Lakeshore Road could be considered for a secondary application; however, since it requires significant funding for the road portion of the project it cannot be guaranteed to be completed before March 2026 and therefore may not comply with the terms of the grant.

Respectfully submitted,



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Robert Niewenhuizen  
Director of Engineering and Public Works

cc Chelsea Van De Cappelle, CFO