

# LATE ITEM

## Request for Decision



To: Regular Meeting  
From: **Development and Engineering Services**  
Date: October 16, 2017  
Subject: Application to Community Emergency Preparedness Fund  
Recommendation: **RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to apply for the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Floodplain Mapping Analysis and Planning.**

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### Background

The Union of BC Municipalities has released a funding opportunity for floodplain mapping and risk assessment through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF). This program provides up to 100% funding of flood risk assessments, flood mapping, and mitigation planning.

The department intends to initiate risk assessment work under the National Disaster Mitigation Program's Risk Assessment Information Template in order to prepare for grant applications and enable funding applications for capital projects related to reducing damage from flooding. The City has also applied for floodplain mapping through the Gas Tax Strategic Priorities Fund to do detailed floodplain mapping and hazard assessment, and is awaiting notice of the award.

This application is complementary to the Strategic Priorities Fund grant application, to provide enhanced data acquisition, analysis of terrain and built environment features, and assessment of erosion sites along the Kettle and Granby River in and immediately adjacent the City. The department anticipates the total value of the grant to be between \$100,000 and \$125,000, depending on the estimates received from contractors between this meeting and the grant application deadline of October 27.

Floodplain mapping and risk assessment are useful to the City because:

- 30 percent of Grand Forks lies within the 200 year floodplain as identified in the 1992 study.
  - Recent flooding of less than a 20 year probability tested emergency responses and delineated improvements needed in background information on flood hazards for property and infrastructure.
  - Both the Kettle and Granby Rivers have ongoing risks of migrating their courses across the floodplain.
  - Two standard dikes protect parts of Grand Forks but they were designed according to older standards and their suitability for protection during future flood events is unknown.
  - The existing floodplain mapping is over 25 years old and the data is outdated as it relates to current engineering, hydrology, and climate change standards.
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## Benefits or Impacts

### General:

- Will improve community safety and emergency response and mitigate flooding damage to infrastructure and property.
- As an up to 100 percent funded grant, this will save the City money for work that will need to be done anyways in the near future.
- Staff planned and budgeted for a similar project in 2017 and this grant will extend the scope of that work.

### Policy/Legislation

- Sustainable Community Plan (SCP) Objective 6.2.1 recognizes both steep slopes and flooding areas as potentially hazardous areas for development. SCP Policy 6.3.10 requires new development within the City's Floodplain Area to meet additional requirements. SCP Section 14.6 establishes Development Permit Areas in floodplain. These studies will update where the flood areas are and clarify what potential new developments would be impacted.
  - Bylaw 1402 regulates floodplain setbacks and building specifications.
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## Recommendation

**RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to apply for the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Floodplain Mapping Analysis and Planning.**

## Options

1. RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the report.
2. RESOLVED THAT Council does not accept the report.
3. RESOLVED THAT Council refers the matter back to staff for further information.