

Request for Decision



To: Regular Meeting

From: **Development, Engineering & Planning**

Date: May 21, 2019

Subject: UBCM Grant Opportunity – Housing Needs Reports Program

Recommendation: **THAT Council supports the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary applying to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) for a grant to hire a consultant(s) to conduct Housing Needs Reports in the Kootenay and Boundary areas.**

Background

An amendment to the Local Government Act in 2018 requires local governments to create housing needs reports (Division 22 of Part 14 of the Local Government Act). The housing needs reports will help local governments and the Province better understand and respond to housing needs across the Province.

A staff report (attached) from Donna Dean, Manager of Planning and Development for the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB), was presented to the Board of Directors of the RDKB regarding a grant opportunity from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) to hire a consultant or consultants to conduct Housing Needs Reports for the Kootenay and Boundary areas.

On direction from the Board, the report was forwarded to staff at each member municipality. A resolution from each participating municipality is required as part of the grant application.

Benefits or Impacts

General

The benefits of working in partnership with the RDKB on this initiative, rather than applying as an individual community, are freeing up City staff time to focus on other initiatives, economies of scale, a consistent approach and a template for future updates.

Strategic Impact



Community Engagement

- This report is presented in open meeting for questions and comments from the public.



Community Livability

- Supports the Official Community Plan principles to encourage a diversity in housing stock and ensure that affordable housing is a viable option for residents; and facilitates the implementation of an affordable housing strategy.



Economic Growth

- We currently have a critical housing shortage and more housing options will benefit the local labour force as well as provide for growth.



Fiscal Responsibility

- Minimal City staff resources required as the grant will be applied for and administered by RDKB.

Policy/Legislation

Official Community Plan, Local Government Act

Attachments

RDKB Staff Report

Recommendation

THAT Council supports the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary applying to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) for a grant to hire a consultant(s) to conduct Housing Needs Reports in the Kootenay and Boundary areas.

Options

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

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2019-05-21 RFD Housing Needs Assessment grant support.docx
Attachments:	- Staff Report-UBCMGrant-Board-May 8, 2019.pdf
Final Approval Date:	May 14, 2019

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Diane Heinrich - May 14, 2019 - 2:48 PM