



To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee **Date:** July 10, 2012
From: Amarjeet S. Rattan **File:** 03-1000-03-015
 Director, Intergovernmental Relations & Protocol
 Unit / Acting Senior Manager, Enterprise Services
Re: **Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund Grants – Government of Canada**

Staff Recommendation

That the following projects be endorsed for submission to the Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund (CIIF) and other eligible grant funding programs:

1. Richmond Olympic Experience Project
2. Japanese Benevolent Society Building Rehabilitation and Restoration
3. Britannia Heritage Shipyard Seine Net Loft Rehabilitation and Adaptive Reuse to Exhibit and Open Storage
4. Gateway Theatre Energy Retrofit Project
5. Wireless Access Upgrade to Library and Adjacent City Facilities

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REPORT CONCURRENCE			
ROUTED TO: Arts, Culture and Heritage Budgets Library Services Parks Project Development Richmond Olympic Oval Sustainability	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
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Staff Report

Origin

The Government of Canada, through Western Economic Diversification (WED), recently announced \$46M in funding regionally and \$150M nation wide, available over the next two years, through the Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund (CIIF) grant-funding program. This report proposes priority projects that fit the criteria outlined for the CIIF program.

The CIIF grant application requires a Council resolution for all submissions.

Analysis

The CIIF program is aimed at rehabilitating, improving existing infrastructure and modernizing infrastructure projects in recreation and community facilities. An outline of the program and a more detailed eligibility list is included in (*Attachment 1*). The intention of the fund is to find “shovel ready” projects that focus on the improvement of safety, accessibility and sustainability.

While the fund may provide up to \$1 million per project, applications seeking less than \$250,000 in CIIF funding per project will receive priority. The deadline for submission is Aug 2, 2012. All CIIF approved projects are required to be completed prior to March 31, 2014.

The following projects, detailed in (*Attachment 2*), are recommended for submission to the CIIF program and other future grant programs. As other City projects become available, they may be added to the project list for potential grant funding submissions.

Current City of Richmond Projects Requesting CIIF Funding:

1. Richmond Olympic Experience Project
2. Japanese Benevolent Society Building Rehabilitation and Restoration
3. Britannia Heritage Shipyard Seine Net Loft Rehabilitation and Adaptive Reuse to Exhibit and Open Storage
4. Gateway Theatre Energy Retrofit Project
5. Wireless Access Upgrade to Library and Adjacent City Facilities

Staff will further analyse the criteria against the proposed projects prior to application submissions.

Staff would also like permission to seek other non federal government grant funding opportunities, where appropriate, for the above-mentioned projects to supplement City and approved CIIF funding.

Financial Impact

The City's portion of the funding is included in the approved capital program.

Conclusion

The Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund (CIIF) is a new, two-year national program to rehabilitate and improve existing community infrastructure. The federal government has recently announced the opening of the application intake process for CIIF submissions. Staff have considered various eligible projects and identified those listed above as the most appropriate projects and are seeking Council endorsement to apply for funding for the CIIF Grant and other similar grants.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Denise Tambellini".

Denise Tambellini
Manager, Intergovernmental Relations & Protocol Unit
(604) 276-4349

Att.: 2

Program Eligibility Criteria

Eligible Projects: CIIF supports the rehabilitation or improvement of existing community infrastructure that is non-commercial and accessible to the public. Examples include:

- community centres;
- cultural centres;
- parks;
- libraries;
- recreational facilities (e.g. local arenas, swimming pools, sports fields);
- tourism facilities having a local impact; and
- other existing community infrastructure assets which have a local community impact such as connectivity and broadband and local airports.

Eligible projects will also:

- leverage at least 50% of total eligible project costs from other sources than the federal government;
- complete all work prior to March 31, 2014.

Construction of new infrastructure and significant expansion of existing infrastructure are not eligible under CIIF.

Eligible Costs: CIIF will support eligible costs directly related to a project that have been incurred and paid by a successful applicant. Examples of eligible costs under CIIF include:

1. costs incurred between April 1, 2012 and March 31, 2014;
2. costs to rehabilitate or improve fixed capital assets of community facilities, including minor expansions to existing infrastructure;
3. fees paid to consultants/contractors or other professional or technical personnel directly related to the rehabilitation or expansion of the community facility;
4. costs related to signage, which are required for CIIF projects and need to be included in the project budget;
5. costs for assessments, monitoring and follow-up as required by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) or related legislation; and
6. other costs directly related to the success of the project and approved in advance.

Costs and services normally covered by the applicant (i.e. maintenance) are not eligible, and only in select cases will incremental employee costs be considered. Other ineligible costs include:

- costs incurred before April 1, 2012 or after March 31, 2014;
- movable equipment (e.g. zambonies, snow groomers and ATVs), including costs for leasing equipment;
- overhead costs, including direct and indirect operating and administrative costs (e.g. management, planning, engineering, and other related costs) normally carried out by the applicant;
- costs for salaries and benefits of existing employees and unrelated general administration costs;
- costs for land; feasibility and planning studies and legal fees; and
- taxes, such as GST, for which the applicant is eligible for a tax rebate.

(Cited from Western Economic Diversification Website <http://www.wd.gc.ca/eng/13771.asp>)

Project for CIF Grant Application (in order of priority)

Project	Brief Description	Project Cost	CIF Grant Request
1. Richmond Olympic Experience Project	The Olympic Oval Conversion Project involves capital improvement of infrastructure to the Richmond Olympic Oval required in order to install a destination attraction – the Olympic Experience (and museum). This project is intended to promote Olympism and celebrate excellence in sport and will be the first member of the Olympic Museum Network in North America. The Olympic Experience is intended to create a tourism inventory for Richmond and will involve the capital upgrades required to house the interactive displays, precious Olympic artefacts, and digital imagery included in the exhibit. City of Richmond and the Richmond Oval Corps, Richmond's Municipal Corporation, have approved funding for this project.	\$2.075M	\$1M
2. Japanese Benevolent Society Building: Rehabilitation and restoration	Preservation and Restoration of the Japanese Association Building and historic gardens. Includes rehabilitations and restoration of the exterior and interior rehabilitation of the heritage building located on Moncton Street. The facility will supplement the Steveston Museum exhibit, Tourism Richmond Visitor Centre and community program space.	\$405,000	\$200,000
3. Britannia Heritage Shipyard Seine Net Loft: Rehabilitation and adaptive reuse to exhibit and open storage	Britannia Heritage Shipyard is a national historic site. This phase includes rehabilitation of the superstructure of the Seine Net Loft that includes safety upgrades, seismic upgrades, fire protection, asbestos removal or encapsulation so the building can be exhibit ready for public use, exhibit space and storage.	\$1.195M	\$250,000
4. Gateway Theatre: Energy retrofit project	The Gateway Theatre Energy Retrofit Project involves installation of the wastewater energy recovery system, installation of new boiler and replacement of couplings on high temperature system. This project will result in 50% of annual gas and GHG savings.	\$170,000	\$85,000
5. Wireless Service: Improvements to all library branches and adjacent city facilities	This project will improve accessibility to digital services for the community through the improved wireless services in all library branches and adjacent city facilities. There is significant public interest in strengthening the wireless access especially in the Minoru complex and Steveston Community Centre. The project will enhance the library's infrastructure and carry over to the cultural centre, arena, pool, seniors centre, and other facilities.	\$150,000 (\$75,000 appropriated from Library Board surplus)	\$75,000
Total CIF Funding Request			\$1.61M