

STAFF REPORT: Engineering and Public Works



REPORT TO: Engineering and Public Works Committee
MEETING DATE: May 27, 2008
REPORT NO.: EPW.08.63
SUBJECT: 2008 Municipal Road and Infrastructure
 Investment – Grant Allocation
PREPARED BY: Reg Russwurm, Director of Engineering and
 Public Works Department

A. Recommendations

THAT Council approve the recommended allocation of funds from the “2008 Municipal Road and Infrastructure Investment” grant as outlined in Report EPW.08.63.

B. Background

Report EPW 08.44 was presented to Committee on April 7, 2008 (Attachment #1), acknowledging approval from the Ministry of Transportation for a “2008 Municipal Roads and Bridges Infrastructure” grant in the amount of \$771,009. The Report stated that Engineering and Public Works will coordinate with Financial Services Department as to the appropriate roads and bridge projects to which funds will be allocated. This Report provides Staff recommendations on the allocation of funds.

The Engineering and Public Works Department in conjunction with the Financial Services Department has reviewed the 2008 Capital Works Budget to determine appropriate projects to which the funds may be allocated. Provided below in Table 1 is a list of projects which Staff feel are eligible and are funded through taxation. The suggested amount to be allocated to each project is listed along with the new budget for the project.

Table 1 - Grant Allocation Summary

<u>Project</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>New Budget</u>
Plan 915 Development Reconstruction - Roads	\$173,000	\$1,333,000
Roads Needs Study and Asset Inventory Project	\$50,000	\$80,000
Beaver River Bridge Resurfacing	\$225,000	\$1,072,000
Slabtown Bridge Repairs and Upgrades	\$323,009	\$1,460,000
Total	\$771,009	

The reason for allocating money to these projects is given below:

Plan 915 Reconstruction	The road portion of Plan 915 Reconstruction estimate prepared by the Engineer is higher than the budget estimate due to refinement of works and expected increased construction cost.
Roads Needs Study and Asset Inventory Project	The scope of work has increased to permit the Town to retain a consultant to assist with the Tangible Capital Asset Inventory required under PSAB 3150 and to assist with other infrastructure inventory work that can be efficiently conducted as part of the project.
Beaver River Bridge Resurfacing	The cost of the Beaver River Bridge is expected to be higher than budgeted due to increasing construction costs and to offset funding from taxation (\$58,000) and Capital Reserves (\$50,000). The net increase in the project budget is \$117,000 (\$225,000-\$50,000-\$58,000).
Slabtown Bridge Reconstruction	Funds allocated to the Slabtown Bridge Repairs and Upgrades will offset monies from reserves. There is no net change in the project budget.

The final contribution terms for the grant will be known by June 30, 2008. The allocation of the funds should be considered preliminary until such time as Staff can confirm that the projects do fulfill the terms of the grant. The Plan 915 Reconstruction Project has the tightest time frame but is expected to be tendered mid summer which will allow Staff an opportunity to confirm that allocation to this Project is satisfactory. In the event that the allocation is inappropriate for any of the identified projects, Staff will provide a revised recommendation. By allocating the funds to these projects, the Town is using the funds to achieve reconstruction and extension of life expectancy on road and bridge infrastructure plus assessing future needs.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

The appropriate allocation of the funding from MTO furthers the Town Strategic Plan Goal # 2 "Addressing the Town Municipal Infrastructure Needs".

D. Environmental Impacts

The allocation of the grant funds will assist the Town in its goal of sustainable roads and bridge infrastructure.

E. Budget Impact

The budget modifications will be as outlined in Table 1 above and have been confirmed with the Town's Capital Accountant.

F. Attached

1. Report EPW.08.44, 2008 Municipal Road and Infrastructure Investment – Notice of Approval, April 7, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Reg Russwurm
Director of Engineering & Public Works