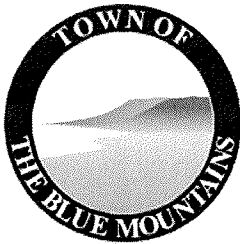


STAFF REPORT: Planning



REPORT TO: Mayor & Members of Council
MEETING DATE: July 07, 2008
REPORT NO.: PL.08.81
**SUBJECT: Sustainable Community
Improvement Plan**
**PREPARED BY: Peter Tollefsen
Director of Planning**

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Planning Staff Report No. PL.08.81, "Sustainable Community Improvement Plan" for information purposes.

B. Background

A staff report was forwarded to Council on May 7, 2007, titled "Downtown Revitalization" proposing a Community Improvement Plan for Thornbury, Clarksburg and Craigleith. The report described sources of funding through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Staff reported to Council on May 26, 2008 that the Town was successful with the applications for grant funding and authorized the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Agreements on behalf of the Municipality, (see attached Report No. PL.08.53).

The Funding Agreements are now in place so it is in order to commence the Community Improvement Plan which is the purpose of this report. The first step is to retain a project Consultant. A Request for Proposal (RFP) with the Terms of Reference has been prepared and is attached to this report for Council's information.

The RFP will be circulated for a response. Staff will report back to Council with a recommendation once complete.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

By doing a Community Improvement Plan the Town will encourage downtown revitalization that will help with Goal 5:

"Ensuring long-term financial sustainability".

D. Environmental Impacts

The Community Improvement Plan will create an action plan for downtown revitalization and assist in programs to fix up older buildings thereby helping to improve the environment and contribute to the long-term sustainability of the core areas of the Town.

E. Budget Impact

Funding has been allocated under the 2008 Capital Budget for the Community Improvement Plan work to cover the Town's portion of costs (\$23,000). Total costs of the project is estimated at \$183,500.

F. Attachments

1. Planning Staff Report No. PL.08.53, dated May 26, 2008
2. Request for Proposal (RFP) and Terms of Reference for a Sustainable Community Improvement Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Tollefsen, Director of Planning

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