

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Recreation Services

Date: June 20, 2023

Subject: Active Transportation Master Plan Contract Award

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council authorizes Recreation Services to enter into a contract with VDZ+A to develop the District of Mackenzie Active Transportation Master Plan (with concept landscape plans and technical drawings for typical cross walk sections) in the amount of \$51,991.30 plus GST;

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the contract and any related documentation.

BACKGROUND:

The District of Mackenzie was awarded \$50,000 as part of the Infrastructure Canada grant stream. The goal of the Active Transportation Master Plan (ATMP) is to provide an assessment of Mackenzie's current active transportation network highlighting all barriers and accessibility issues while exploring options to increase network traffic. This plan will also help the District of Mackenzie pursue grant opportunities and prioritize active transportation investment that is immediately impactful.

Staff reached out to three consultants to create a master plan, using recommendations from other municipalities recreation departments. Based on their methodology, value added services, diverse staffing experience, costs and several positive recommendations, VDZ+A received the highest evaluation from staff.

Quotes requested:

1. VDZ+A = \$27,247.55 plus GST
2. Urban Systems = \$48,150 plus GST
3. Dialogue Design = No quote received

In addition to the Active Transportation Master Plan, staff recommend creating concept landscape plans with cost estimates for the Mackenzie Recreation Centre and 616 properties. This would allow staff to begin applying for grants with the ultimate goal of addressing issues

with existing infrastructure such as sidewalks and connector systems, which directly relate to the Active Transportation Plan and Downtown Revitalization Plans.

Lastly, staff are looking into the development of cross sections for pathways. By creating well-designed and appropriately surfaced pathways, residents are encouraged to walk, cycle, or use other non-motorized modes of transportation. This not only promotes physical activity, but also reduces traffic congestion and air pollution. The cross sections must consider factors such as accessibility, safety, economic viability, and connectivity to ensure that the pathways are convenient and useful for all members of the community.

SUMMARY:

Following contract award, Recreation Services and the proponent will begin the process of developing the District of Mackenzie's Active Transportation Master Plan. VDZ+A will conduct a review of the existing walking, biking and trails system. This would be conducted in conjunction with a site review for their ongoing work at the new downtown park. They will review GIS or existing mapping available through the District and discuss any transportation planning and community plans that may impact the active transportation plan.

VDZ+A will then work with the District to develop a project vision for the active transportation plan. The team will discuss the key objectives and ultimate goals with District staff to ensure the final document meets the needs of the community. They will host a public open house to discuss active transportation and how the community currently approaches cycling, walking, and other modes of active transportation. A second open house will be held to review the draft active transportation strategy and upon completion of the document VDZ+A will present the finished document to council.

In addition, VDZ+A would use the information collected for the Active Transportation Master Plan to start developing concept plans and cost estimates for Mackenzie Recreation Centre and 616 properties. This effort would help move development of the properties forward and improve the functionality and beautification of these areas.

Recreation Services anticipates completion of the entire scope of work and deliverables by the end of December 2023.

Project cost breakdown:

Master Plan = \$27,247.55

Option A - Two Concept Parks = \$11,149.40 (\$5,574.70 each)

Option B - Cross Section = \$13,594.35

Total = \$51,991.30 plus GST

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Funding for this project has been previously approved and allocated to the 2023 Capital Budget. The additional \$1,991.30 would be allocated from the General Capital Reserve Budget.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Community and Social Development

- Our investment in the municipality's services and infrastructure, our commitment to principles of social equity and well-being, and our belief in the value of resident engagement, creates a healthy community in which everyone feels valued and enjoys a high quality of life.

Strong Governance and Finances

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

Respectfully Submitted,



Terry Gilmer
Director of Recreation Services



Kerri Borne
Chief Financial Officer



Approved for Submission to Council