

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

TO: Finance Committee (Pre-Budget) – October 28-29, 2024

AUTHOR: Kyle Doyle, Manager, Asset Management

SUBJECT: **GIBSONS AND DISTRICT FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE [210] CAPITAL FUNDING UPDATE**

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- (1) THAT the report titled Gibsons And District Volunteer Fire Service [210] Capital Funding Update be received for information;**
 - (2) AND THAT for 2025, the Gibsons and District Fire Protection Service’s Rescue Apparatus Replacement project in the amount of \$661,100 be funded through long-term borrowing;**
 - (3) AND THAT Electoral Approval to authorize long-term borrowing up to \$661,100 for a term of 10 years be sought through the Alternate Approval Process to fund Gibsons and District Fire Protection Service’s Rescue Apparatus Replacement project;**
 - (4) AND THAT capital expenditures of up to \$742,000 be included as part of 2025 Budget funded through Capital Reserves;**
 - (5) AND FURTHER THAT the 2025-2029 Draft Financial Plan be amended accordingly.**
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BACKGROUND

Since 2016 the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) has maintained a 20-year Capital Plan for the Gibsons and District Volunteer Fire Service. The purpose of this plan is to forecast upcoming expenditures related to the renewal of capital components and to determine the annual funding necessary to complete these projects across 20 years. The Capital Plan helps to mitigate fluctuations in the taxation on an annual basis related to these expenses. On December 14, 2023 the following resolution was adopted by the Board:

376/23 Recommendation No. 4 *Gibsons and District Fire Protection Service [210] 20-Year Capital Plan Update*

[...]AND THAT the annual funding commitment towards capital renewal for the Gibsons and District Fire Protection Service [210] be increased by \$80,000 to \$355,000 from \$275,000 starting in 2025 and be increased by 2% annually thereafter;[...]

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the 20-Year Capital Plan for the Gibsons and District Volunteer Fire Service.

DISCUSSION

After the annual review and updates, the previously approved funding for the Gibsons and District Fire Protection Service (GDFPS) projects to be sufficient for the 20-year capital planning horizon.

The replacement of GDFPS’s Rescue Apparatus is approaching and due to production and delivery lead times the procurement process is slated to begin in 2025. Long-term borrowing for the replacement of the aging Rescue Apparatus will allow the financial burden to be distributed over time and helps to mitigate the need to increase funding.

Options and Analysis

No changes to the funding for this service are required at this time.

Timeline for next steps or estimated completion date

Alternate Approval Process (AAP) will be required in 2025 for the new Rescue Apparatus. GDFPS and Legislative Services staff will coordinate for this process. Communications efforts to promote informed community engagement will be incorporated into this process.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES

The implementation and use of a Capital Plan aligns with the SCRD’s Financial Sustainability Policy, Asset Management Policy, and the Asset Stewardship component of the SCRD’s Strategic Plan.

CONCLUSION

The 20-year capital plan for GDFPS has been updated this year and no changes to previously approved funding is required to maintain a sustainable Capital Plan. Capital expenditures totaling \$742,000 are recommended to be included in the 2025 Budget.

The use of longer-term loans for fire apparatus helps to minimize annual funding requirement necessary to provide sustainable funding for critical components and equipment renewal at each service. Future reviews around the levels of service provided by each fire department will help to inform subsequent funding decisions.

Reviewed by:			
Manager		Finance	
GM		Legislative	
CAO/CFO	X - T. Perreault	Other	