



Staff Report

Finance and IT Services

Report To: Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date: October 23, 2017
Report Number: FAF.17.122
Subject: Municipal GhG Challenge Fund Application
Prepared by: Sam Dinsmore, Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report FAF.17.122, entitled “Municipal GhG Challenge Fund Application”; and

THAT Council direct staff to apply for funding under the Municipal GhG Challenge Fund for the conveyance of leachate by forcemain from the Landfill to the Thornbury Wastewater Treatment Plant.

B. Overview

This report is seeking Council endorsement to apply for 100% funding of the leachate forcemain project through the Municipal GhG Challenge Fund.

C. Background

Ontario’s Climate Change Action Plan, released in June 2016, recognizes that municipalities can play a key role in helping Ontario meet its targets. Ontario’s strategy is to cut Greenhouse Gas emissions to 15% below 1990 levels by 2020, 37% by 2030 and to 80% by 2050. The Municipal GhG Challenge Fund is aimed at supporting community-led action on climate change.

Municipalities may request up to \$10 million per project and the province will contribute up to 100% of the eligible costs. However, a higher score will be given to applicants that leverage funds for up to 50% of eligible costs.

D. Analysis

Following the Landfill Leachate Management Environmental Assessment, four alternatives were considered by the Town to reduce costs associated with leachate management. The preferred option to install a forcemain to pump leachate from the landfill to the Thornbury Wastewater

Treatment Plant was estimated as the lowest 20 year life cycle cost, saving the Town on leachate haulage costs, reducing truck traffic and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

By reducing the number of truckloads and therefore trucks on the road, the Town is contributing and doing our part in reducing greenhouse gases. In 2016 approximately 700 truckloads of leachate were hauled, which is approximately 565 tonnes of greenhouse gases. To put this into perspective, the Town's corporate baseline in 2005 for annual greenhouse gas production was just above 2,000 tonnes.

E. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Goal #4: Promote a Culture of Organizational and Operational Excellence

Objective #4: To Be a Financially Responsible Organization

Goal #5: Ensure that our Infrastructure is Sustainable

Objective #1: Develop a Long-Term Asset Management Plan for the Maintenance, Renewal, and Replacement of Existing Infrastructure

F. Environmental Impacts

Greenhouse Gas Emissions will be significantly reduced by eliminating truck haulage of leachate from the Landfill Site to the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The reduction in greenhouse gases will be related to switching from using diesel fuel and trucks to transport the leachate to a more efficient forcemain method that also uses cleaner electricity as the power source.

G. Financial Impact

As reported in Staff Report CSPW.17.072, the installation of a forcemain would see a cost savings of over \$200,000 per year, netting \$2.5 million savings over the 20 Year Life Cycle.

Currently this project is funded from long term debt. If successful the Town could see savings of \$2 million for the construction costs and \$950,000 in interest over 25 years. Staff are recommending that 100% of the eligible costs be requested in the application because there are no other funding sources other than long-term debt at this time.

H. In consultation with

Wanda Robertson, Account Analyst

I. Attached

None.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sam Dinsmore
Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets

Ruth Prince
Director of Finance and IT Services

For more information, please contact:
Sam Dinsmore
sdinsmore@thebluemountains.ca
519-599-3131 extension 274