



Committee of the Whole Report

For the Meeting of November 26, 2020

To: Committee of the Whole **Date:** November 20, 2020
From: Kerri Moore, Head of Community and Business Relations
Subject: Bastion Square Seasonal Animation Funding

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Authorize staff to release \$23,395 from the Bastion Square Market Fund to the BSRA for their seasonal animation project
2. That the above motion be forwarded to the daytime meeting of November 26, 2020 for ratification

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The attached funding request (Appendix A) follows up on the Outdoor Public Market Review report submitted to Council on November 19, 2020 and in response to correspondence received from the Bastion Square Revitalization Association (BSRA) on November 6 and 19, 2020.

The BSRA operates the summer outdoor market in Bastion Square, which in addition to animating the square and providing a livelihood for regional artists and artisans, provides net proceeds towards improvements to the square. Under a joint agreement, the net proceeds are contributed to the Bastion Square Public Market Fund (the "Fund") held by the City of Victoria until such time as projects requiring the funds are identified. Previous projects have included installation of historical interpretive panels and the Commerce Canoe. Though no contributions have been made since 2008, there is currently \$249,484 held in the Fund. When there has been a net profit in years since 2008, the funds have been retained in a BSRA account and used directly for planning and installing improvements to the square (e.g. lights over the alley by Irish Times).

The 2020 market season was significantly impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic and the market operated at a net loss. As a result, remaining funds held by the BSRA are nominal and do not allow for any project funding. The BSRA has developed a seasonal decoration strategy and requested that resources are allocated from the Fund to complete the program. Cost estimates have been provided by the BSRA for implementation of the plan.

This request for funding is consistent with terms and conditions of the fund agreement between the City and the BSRA.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Hill
Downtown Coordinator

Kerri Moore
Manager, Business and Community Relations

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:



Date: November 23, 2020

List of Attachments

Appendix A - BSRA Funding Request Letter