

Council For the Meeting of July 9, 2015

To:

Council

Date: June 29, 2015

Susanne Thompson, Director, Finance

From:

Julie MacDougall, Assistant Director, Parks and

Subject:

2015 Strategic Plan Grant, Micro Grant, and Community Garden Volunteer

Coordination Grant Applications

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to outline the 2015 Strategic Plan Grant, Micro Grant and Community Garden Volunteer Coordination Grant applications for Council's consideration. Grants are scheduled to be awarded at the July 23, 2015 Council meeting.

This report is going directly to Council rather than first to the Governance and Priorities Committee meeting to allow for grants to be approved and paid before the end of July. It is hoped that this timeline will minimize the impact to organizations as typically grants are paid the first week of July.

On June 11, 2015 Council directed staff to accept applications until June 26, 2015 and report on eligible applications at the July 9, 2015 Council meeting. Eligible applicants requesting funding \$10,000 and greater are required to present to Council before Council considers all applications. The Town Hall presentation meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2015.

The City received 55 grant applications for the 2015 Strategic Plan Grant and Micro Grant intake, with 53 eligible applications totalling \$511,499; the requested amounts range from \$500 to \$73,744. Council allocated funding of \$207,674 in the 2015 Financial Plan, which includes \$25,000 of unspent greenways grant funding from 2014. In 2014, for the previous grant programs, the total budget was \$181,542, with requests of \$330,072 and awards of \$144,387.

The 53 applications eligible under the City's grant policy (Appendix A) are outlined in Appendix B. Two applications are ineligible as outlined in Appendix C. Nineteen funding requests are \$10,000 or more as outlined in Appendix D.

Six applications impact public space (Appendix E). Additional staff evaluation is underway to ensure that the use and function of the public space is not negatively impacted as well as budget implications for the ongoing maintenance. This additional information will be brought to the July 23, 2015 Council meeting. Upon initial review, one of these applications will likely be recommended for deferral to the 2016 grant intake since it is complex and impacts public right-ofway.

Seven applications for Community Garden Volunteer Coordination grants are outlined in Appendix F. Five neigbourhoods have one applicant, whereas Fernwood has two. It is recommended that the grant for Fernwood be shared equally between the two organizations.

Recommendations

That Council at the July 23 Council meeting:

- 1. Consider and approve, as determined by Council, the eligible Strategic Plan and Micro grant applications outlined in Appendix B.
- 2. Approve the applications for Community Garden Volunteer Coordination grants as outlined in Appendix F.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Thompson Director, Finance

Julie MacDougall Assistant Director,

Parks and Recreation

Thomas Soulliere

Director, Parks

and Recreation

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Date:

Attachments:

Appendix A – Grant Policy

Appendix B - Eligible Strategic Plan Grant Applications Appendix C - Ineligible Strategic Plan Grant Applications

Appendix D – Eligible Strategic Plan Grant Applications \$10,000 or More

Appendix E - Strategic Plan Grant Applications that Impact Public Space

Appendix F - Community Garden Volunteer Coordinator Applications

Council Report