



City of Castlegar

REPORT TO COUNCIL

DATE: November 12, 2008 **REPORT NO.:** 08-214
SUBMITTED BY: Chief Administrative Officer **FILE NO.:** 2240-30.A19
SUBJECT: Airport Beacon Funding Resolution

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to apply for \$375,000 through the Provincial Government's Towns For Tomorrow expanded program for the Castlegar Airport Hazard Beacon Project.

PURPOSE

To provide a Council resolution to direct staff to apply for the Hazard Beacon Project as Castlegar's Towns for Tomorrow project funding.

SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

The City has an opportunity to apply for \$375,000 through the Provincial Government's Towns for Tomorrow program for the airport hazard Beacon project. The application requires a resolution of support from Council before the application can be made. The application is complete other than the required resolution from Council.

ALTERNATIVES

The City could forego the airport beacon project and determine whether there are other projects that might be appropriate for the Towns For Tomorrow funding.

IMPLICATIONS

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (1) Social | N/A |
| (2) Environmental | N/A |
| (3) Personnel | N/A |
| (4) Financial | Provided in Council's Annual Budget |

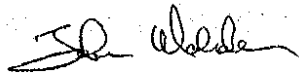
POLICY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION

Staff will undertake completion of the required application and submit same to the Provincial Government.

Respectfully submitted,



John Malcolm
Chief Administrative Officer

PLEASE READ THE PROGRAM GUIDE before completing this Application Form. It is important for applicants to review the Program Guide for information pertaining to eligibility, selection criteria and supporting documentation.

The Application Form must be completed in full and submitted with a resolution from the council or board authorizing the project to proceed and detailed cost estimates. Applicants should be aware that information collected is subject to provincial freedom of information legislation. See the Program Guide for more details.

If you require further assistance, please contact:
Phone: (250) 387-4060 Fax: (250) 356-1873
Email: infra@gov.bc.ca

For Administrative Use Only

A. Applicant Information

Legal Name of Applicant: City of Castlegar	
Primary Contact Name: John Malcolm	Title of Primary Contact: Chief Administrative Officer
Phone Number: 250.365.8951	Email Address: jmalcolm@castlegar.ca

B. Project Information

Project Name: Hazard Beacon Project [Castlegar Airport Night Aircraft Operations]

1. a) Has this project been applied for under previous rounds of the program? Yes No
 b) If yes, please provide the project number and year the application was submitted.

2. Provide a brief project description outlining the problems this project will address and the objectives that will be achieved.
 The hazard beacon proposal was identified after much study and consultation as the most cost-effective way to address the health care and economic challenges associated with the Castlegar Airport. Currently, no flights are permitted in or out of Castlegar airport after dark. Up to 18% of departures are cancelled due to darkness. Also, many end-of-day incoming flights are cancelled by airlines wanting to avoid the potential of aircraft being stranded in Castlegar due to darkness. The impacts are significant: the unreliability of commercial flights negatively affects both business and pleasure travellers and urgent night-time medical evacuations are forced to be made over slower ground transportation routes. This project will provide a means of safely allowing flights out of the airport at night in favourable weather conditions. Initially limited only to emergency medical evacuation flights, once the beacons and the associated flight protocols have been demonstrated we anticipate working with Transport Canada to extend the system to commercial flight use.

3. Provide a description of the physical works that will be included in the project, including function, physical size and capacity.
 The hazard beacon proposal entails the installation of six night-time visual beacons distributed at key strategic points situated around the Castlegar Airport. As well, a protocol for use of the beacons will be established and flight testing conducted to ensure safety before an application for formal approval from the Transport Canada.

4. What is the population that will be served by this project?
 The City of Castlegar has a population of 7,259. Castlegar Airport is the Regional Airport for the West Kootenays, serving the populations of the Kootenay-Boundary and Central-Kootenay Regional Districts which together comprise approx 100,000.

C. Financial Details

5. How will the local share of capital costs be financed (DCCs, utility rates, etc.)?
 The local share of capital costs will be financed through the Airport Reserve via tax revenues and airport revenues.

6. Who is responsible for the ongoing operational costs of the project when complete?
 Responsibility for the Castlegar Airport was transferred to the City of Castlegar under the terms of the National Airport Policy in 1997. The airport is self-funded and ongoing costs of the hazard beacon will be funded through revenues raised by from airport operations.

7. If this project involves a partnership, provide the legal name of all partner organizations and describe how they are supporting this project.

Funding contributions from partners include: City of Castlegar, Southern Interior Development Initiative, Provincial Transportation Partnerships Program and Columbia Basin Trust. Attached please find letters of support from: Columbia Power Corporation, Columbia Basin Trust, Interior Health and British Columbia Ambulance Services.

8.a) Will/has this project receive(d) funding from another local government, provincial agency, or the federal government? Yes No

b) If yes, please list all sources and the amount of funding.

City of Castlegar - 100,000, Southern Interior Development Initiative - 150,000, Provincial Transportation Partnerships Program - 330,000, Columbia Power Corporation 45,000.

9.a) Total eligible project cost*: 1,000,000

b) All contributions by another local government, provincial agency, or the federal government must be deducted* (-): 625,000

c) Total cost-sharable amount: 375,000

* Detailed cost estimates should be attached. See Program Guide.

D. Project Benefits

Innovation, Sustainability and Social, Cultural, Economic and Environmental Well-Being

Where applicable, please use the following questions to demonstrate how the proposed project benefits the community. Projects will be assessed on how they meet one or more of these principles.

10.a) Describe how the project is in line with sustainable planning, design, construction, and management (e.g. integrated resource management, smart growth, triple bottom line principles, etc.).

Better airport service will increase the City's attractiveness for development thereby assisting the intensification of the City's land use pattern and density. Densification has been a key component of smart growth.

b) Describe how the project encourages innovative approaches (e.g. a new technology or process, new construction methods, etc.).

This project represents a new direction for Castlegar Airport and the West Kootenay region in advancing the potential for night flights in this region. It is a relatively unique approach to the physical constraints of the Castlegar Airport.

c) Describe the environmental benefits and contribution of the project (e.g. reduced resource consumption, reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, etc.).

By providing greater landing and night exiting certainty, the provision of beacons will reduce the potential for mid-air flight cancellations with the attendant waste of flight fuel carbon expenditures. Increased certainty of flight schedules and use of night air medical transport will reduce individual vehicle trips out of the West Kootenay region to Kelowna, Vancouver and Calgary.

d) Describe the health and social benefits of the project (e.g. advancing opportunities for physical activity, promoting inclusive and accessible communities, improved drinking water quality, etc.).

A major benefit of this project is improving the West Kootenay region's accessibility to the provincial health care system by being able to move patients expeditiously to tertiary care treatment centres in Kelowna or Vancouver by air rather than by over land transport.

e) Describe how the project improves economic growth and/or financial planning and capacity.

This project has been identified as valuable to existing economic activity by establishing greater certainty of emergency responses for businesses currently active in the region. The increased reliability and number of flights into and out of the airport are also identified by local businesses as an important goal in supporting economic expansion in the city and the region. Please see attached letters of support.

f) Describe how the project recognizes the individual identity, history and culture of the community.

The project will assist in the airport's commercial success and continue its tradition as the West Kootenay regional airport. In so doing, it reaffirms Castlegar's identity as being the Centre of the West Kootenay region.

g) Describe how this project will advance the long-term goals and vision of the community (e.g. being carbon neutral with respect to operations by 2012, creating a complete, compact, more energy efficient community, advancing the ActNow BC principle of being more physically active, building seniors-friendly and disability-friendly communities, etc.).

Establishing night-time emergency evacuation capacity is seen by seniors living in the community as a

measure that will add to a sense of security and is anticipated to provide comfort to those seeking to live out their lives in their home community rather than be forced to leave due to concerns about appropriate health services.

h) Describe any additional benefits of the project.

This project is a critical step to achieving full commercial night flight operations. Without this project, the West Kootenays will not be served in the future by night time flights.

Please email the completed Application Form and supporting documentation* to: infra@gov.bc.ca
Hardcopies of supporting documentation can be mailed to:

Ministry of Community Development
Infrastructure and Finance Division
PO Box 9838 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9T1

To complete the application process you must sign and mail the Certification Form to the address above. Applications are not eligible for assessment until the Certification Form is received by the Ministry. The Certification Form can be downloaded from www.townsfortomorrow.gov.bc.ca

** Please see the Program Guide for a list of mandatory and optional supporting documentation.*