



**City of Lloydminster
Request for Decision (RFD)**

Subject Matter: Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund – Lloydminster Tree Planting Initiative

Department: Chief Financial Officer

Presented By: Ryan Hill

Council Meeting Date: July 17, 2023

Recommendation:

That Council approve executing and submitting a full grant application to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund for the Lloydminster Tree Planting Initiative with an estimated cost of \$1,585,000 for the full duration of the agreement (2024 – 2032).

Issue: A Council motion is required to complete the grant funding application for the Lloydminster Tree Planting Initiative through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF).

Background: Between 2018 and 2022, the Government of Canada announced a total of \$3.864 billion in federal funding for the DMAF program. This program supports infrastructure projects designed to mitigate current and future climate-related risks and disasters triggered by natural hazards, such as floods, wildland fires, droughts, and seismic events.

On November 15, 2021, the City applied to DMAF for the Aurora/Southridge Stormwater Improvements project but was unsuccessful due to our project not demonstrating innovative solutions in reducing impacts of the main natural hazard. Although that project was considered eligible, the DMAF program is a competitive, merit-based program and other projects throughout the country were more successful.

In January, a new intake for the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund was opened. Applications may be submitted until July 19, 2023.

After assessing the current and upcoming capital infrastructure projects that best aligned with the DMAF criteria, the Lloydminster Tree Planting Initiative was identified to have the highest likelihood of success in securing DMAF funding due to meeting the project eligibility requirements.

The Lloydminster Tree Planting Initiative is a ten-year plan to plant trees in the downtown core, the main highway corridors in the City, and stormwater drainage channels/lakes. Along with traditional tree planting, it will also incorporate the use of tree cells which are a highly innovative solution for urban tree planting due to their support of large tree growth and stormwater management in highly urbanized areas. This tree cell technology is currently being deployed in the CBD Phase 1 upgrades with plans to be utilized in future phases of the CBD revitalization plan. Using natural infrastructure to mitigate the effects of urban heating, erosion and stormwater mitigation is identified as an innovative solution by DMAF.



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Options:

1. That Council approve executing and submitting a full grant application to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund for the Lloydminster Tree Planting Initiative with an estimated cost of \$1,585,000 for the full duration of the agreement (2024 – 2032).
2. That Council request further information and that the item be brought forward to a future Regular Council Meeting for decision which will result in the grant deadline not being met.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This item is in alignment with the following strategic area: Delivering Good Governance. Maximizing grant opportunities will minimize budget impacts for capital projects.

Legal Review: N/A

Governance Implications: A Council motion providing authorization and support to Administration to proceed with the Lloydminster Tree Planting Initiative is required to submit the grant application.

Budget/Financial Implications: If the total project costs of \$1,585,000 is accepted by DMAF the Federal funding will be 40%. Costs for the entire project would be split as follows:

	Total
Revenue	
City of Lloydminster (60%)	\$ 951,000
DMAF (40%)	634,000
	\$ 1,585,000
 Expenses	
Tree's with Cells	\$ 1,370,000
Tree's without Cells	215,000
	\$ 1,585,000

If our application is successful, the City's financial contribution for completing the project will be substantially decreased. The City's allocation of the project is projected to be supported by a combination of borrowing, donations and fundraising, other grants, and reserves.

Environmental Implications: This item is in alignment with the following strategic area: Managing our Environment and Infrastructure. By proposing a project that reduces natural hazard impacts by utilizing natural infrastructure we are in alignment with federal funding sources and the criteria they require.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund – Lloydminster Tree Planting Initiative.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Jul 10, 2023

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Denise MacDonald

Doug Rodwell

Dion Pollard