

City of Mississauga Corporate Report



Date: February 17, 2021

To: Chair and Members of General Committee

From: Gary Kent, CPA, CGA, ICD.D, Commissioner of
Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer

Originator's files:

Meeting date:
February 24, 2021

Subject

Canada Healthy Communities Initiative

Recommendation

1. That the report dated February 17, 2021 entitled "Canada Healthy Communities Initiative" from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer be received.
2. That staff be directed to prepare and submit an application to the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative, round one intake for the project described in the report.
3. That PN's be created where required for the project upon funding approval.

Background

Funded by the Government of Canada, and administered through the Community Foundations of Canada (CFC), the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative (CHCI) is a \$31 million program that will fund small-scale infrastructure projects to create safer, more vibrant and inclusive communities.

The CHCI will support communities as they create and adapt public spaces, and programming and services for public spaces to respond to ongoing needs arising from COVID-19 over the next two years. Funding is not intended to provide stabilization funding.

Projects funded by the CHCI must be in the local communities' public interest by operating in public space and for public benefit. CHCI projects will:

- respond to identified needs arising from impacts of COVID-19;
- create and adapt public spaces, and programming and services for public spaces in the public interest;
- demonstrate consideration of and connections with the community; and
- serve the general public or a community disproportionately impacted by COVID-19

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Projects must also fall within at least one of three CHCI theme areas:

- **Safe and Vibrant Public Spaces**

Community projects that create and adapt public spaces, or programming and services for public spaces that improve open spaces, parks, commercial main streets , and access to other amenities. Community projects that adapt public spaces to meet public health guidance.

- **Improved Mobility Options**

Community projects that deliver a range of transportation and mobility options or adaptations that permit physical distancing through solutions that increase safe social connectivity, walkability, bike-ability and access to public transit. Community projects that improve pedestrian and cyclist safety through roadway, sidewalk or crosswalk improvements and adaptations.

- **Digital Solutions**

Community projects that provide digital solutions that use data and technology in innovative ways to connect people and support healthy communities. Community projects that use digital technologies and solutions to encourage citizen engagement use open data, online platforms or physical digital services for public benefit.

There will be two rounds of funding, and organizations are permitted to submit one application per round. Round one applications will be accepted until March 9, 2021. Round two applications will become available May 14, 2021 and will be due June 25, 2021.

Mississauga is located in the CFC's '*Golden Horseshoe Hub*' for which \$1.84M has been allocated. This hub includes Oakville, Brampton, Caledon, Brant, Burlington, Hamilton, and Niagara. Applicants can request between \$5,000 and \$250,000, with no matching funding required. All expenses are to be incurred between April 1, 2020 and June 30, 2022.

Comments

During the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City's parks and trails have seen an increase in usage; as a result it is recommended that the round one application be submitted through Community Services, specifically Parks. When round two becomes available, it is recommended that the application be submitted through Corporate Services, specifically IT. The round two project will be determined once intake opens to ensure that program criteria has not changed.

For round one, Park staff completed a review of potential projects to determine the best approach to maximum the funding request while ensuring the project could meet the programs eligibility criteria and substantial completion date requirements, as well as ensuring that the project could provide benefits to residents in each Ward of the City given only one application is permitted.

Project Recommendation	Description	Cost / Funding Request
Outdoor Fitness Amenities	<p>Installation of outdoor fitness amenities at 11 parks throughout Mississauga (one per Ward) in order to encourage fitness and outdoor recreation during COVID-19. Each location will promote physical distancing and have a combination of the following fitness amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distance markers on trails • Fitness bench • Fitness station 	\$250,000

Locations for the outdoor fitness amenities will be determined based on a number of factors. Parks staff will scan each Ward for needs based on Future Directions, and work with the Ward Councillor to determine the most suitable site. Additional consideration will also be given based on community demand, park usage levels and alignment with other park redevelopment projects taking place in the coming year. Additionally, the Region of Peel's Neighbourhood Index Map will also be used in location selection. This map has been used as a tool in prioritizing Capital Projects.

Financial Impact

Should the CHCI funding application be approved, the City would expect to receive \$250,000 in order to complete the project. Funding would be provided through a funding agreement and has no cost-sharing requirement from the municipality.

Conclusion

Public spaces are invaluable to communities who do not have access to green space or space for physical activity within their own homes. COVID-19 health measures have limited the use of public spaces and has affected those who use these spaces most. Through the CHCI, the City has an opportunity to increase its availability of accessible outdoor fitness amenities in each of the City's eleven Wards; and help create a more vibrant and inclusive community as we continue to build back to better.



Gary Kent, CPA, CGA, ICD.D, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer

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