

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 23, 2019

REQUEST FOR DECISION - TO COMMITTEE

SUBJECT

ANNUAL RECREATION FUNDING – MOTION REQUIRED

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the County of Vermilion River Policy and Priorities Committee recommend that the County of Vermilion River approve a 2% annual increase towards the Recreation funding program that provides funds for the four Recreation Areas – Kitscoty, Dewberry, Marwayne, Paradise Valley, the Town of Vermilion, and the City of Lloydminster for a three year period beginning in 2020 and ending in 2022.

THAT the County of Vermilion River Policy and Priorities Committee recommend that the County of Vermilion River enter into an agreement with the City of Lloydminster to outline the terms of the Recreation funding program and to update or renew other existing agreements as needed.

DETAILS

Background: Since 2010, the County of Vermilion River has provided recreation funding to the five recreation areas (Kitscoty, Marwayne, Dewberry, Paradise Valley, Vermilion) and City of Lloydminster. At the September 16, 2014 Policy & Priorities meeting, a motion was approved to implement a 2% annual increase in the annual funding to the Recreation Areas. The motion did not include an end date or any other review requirements. The motion also did not include Dewberry or Lloydminster.

2015 Recreation Service Levels

MOVED by M. King 14-09-31-PP

THAT the County of Vermilion River Policy and Priorities Committee recommend that the County of Vermilion River accept the 2015 General Recreation Service Level and increase the recreation base funding to Paradise Valley, Kitscoty, Marwayne, Vermilion to \$60,000 for 2015 with a yearly increase of 2%. CARRIED

The 2% annual increase has been applied to all funding areas, including Dewberry and Lloydminster, since 2016. The attached yearly Increases in Recreation Funding shows the



financial impact of the 2% increases to date and through to 2022. For the next three years there is an additional \$11,307 to \$11,533 per year added to the total distributed (approximately \$33,927 over the three years).

The funding program changed in 2016 from funding areas to funding facilities directly, with the exception of Vermilion and Lloydminster. For these two areas, an annual amount has been given directly to the Town and the City as they operate the primary recreation facilities in those municipalities. There was the “Agreement to Work Together” in place with the Town of Vermilion that outlines the population-based funding calculation they receive annually. This calculation is based on the percentage of County residents within the Vermilion Recreation Area. The amount differs each year based on their overall operating budget. This agreement continues to be the base for the annual funding calculation until the new Inter-municipal Collaboration Frameworks are put into place (estimated 2020). There has not been an agreement put in place with the City of Lloydminster that outlines the use of these funds.

In order to clarify the program moving forward, it would be beneficial to include a review period for annual recreation funding, as well as to implement an agreement with the City of Lloydminster and other partnering agreements as required. The funds for Recreation come from taxes.

Discussion: There are several options that Council could consider with the annual recreation funding.

- a. Continue with 2% annual increase across all areas
- b. Continue with 2% annual increase for the four Recreation Areas (Dewberry, Kitscoty, Marwayne and Paradise Valley) and hold steady with the funding for Vermilion and Lloydminster as they have (or will have) other agreements in place
- c. Implement a period with no further annual increases

Response Options: THAT the County of Vermilion River Policy and Priorities recommend the County of Vermilion River commit a 2% annual increase in the annual funding to the Recreation funding program that provides funds for the four Recreation Areas (Kitscoty, Dewberry, Marwayne, Paradise Valley), Town of Vermilion and the City of Lloydminster for a three year period (2020, 2021 and 2022).

THAT the County of Vermilion River Policy and Priorities recommend the County of Vermilion River enter into an agreement with the City of Lloydminster to outline the terms of the Recreation funding program and to update or renew other agreements as needed.



IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

Organizational: Administration will monitor agreements and the long term financial planning

Financial: Any increases will be included within the budget process

Communication Required: With partnering municipalities in regards to needed agreements

Implementation: Any increases or agreements to be effective 2020.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Yearly Increases in Recreation Funding

PREPARED BY: Corinne McGirr, Community Development Coordinator

DATE: October 15, 2019