

# HALIFAX

P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

**Item No. 11.1.2**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**March 23, 2021**

**TO:** Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Original Signed by   
Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** March 12, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Federation of Canadian Municipalities Forestry Grant

---

## **ORIGIN**

Staff initiated, pursuant to a grant application requiring Halifax Regional Council support as a condition.

## **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

*Halifax Regional Municipal Charter*

**58 (1)** The Council shall make decisions in the exercise of its powers and duties by resolution, by policy or by by-law.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council adopt the following resolution:

“Be it resolved that Halifax Regional Council directs staff to apply for a grant opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ Municipal Asset Management Program for the Street Tree Inventory Project Phase 2. In doing so, Halifax Regional Municipality commits \$47,000 from its budget toward the costs of this initiative and further commits to conducting the following activities in its proposed project submitted to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ Municipal Asset Management Program:

- Collection of location and attribute data all street trees defined within Phase 2 of the Street Tree Inventory Project; and,
- Migration of this data to the municipal Asset Registry”.

## **BACKGROUND**

In 2019, Urban Forestry began Phase 1 of the Street Tree Inventory Project, beginning with Districts 7 and 8. This inventory data has since been migrated to the Municipal Asset Registry and is awaiting subsequent phases of the project to improve its usefulness.

This data is being collected to support the maintenance of the street tree inventory from a tactical perspective, to aid in projecting budgets and financial reporting within the Urban Forestry portfolio, as well as with an intension of being used for future strategic asset management planning.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) supports projects such as the Street Tree Inventory Project through its Municipal Asset Management Grant Program. As the Halifax Street Tree Inventory Project matches the criteria for matched funding, it is the desire of Urban Forestry to apply for grant funding to support acceleration of this project.

A requirement for application to the FCM program is Council's approval of the grant application for the purposes of continuing with Phase 2 of the Urban Forestry Street Tree Inventory Project. It is also a condition of funding that the Municipality commit to:

- Collection of location and attribute data for all street trees defined within Phase 2 of the Street Tree Inventory Project;
- Migration of this data to the Municipal Asset Registry; and
- Contribution of \$47,000 from the Municipality's budget toward the costs of this initiative.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

As identified in TPW's 2021/22 budget under R845/6310 (Urban Forestry), \$47,000 is committed toward completing Phase 2 of the Street Tree Inventory Project. The grant from FCM, a fund matching program with a \$50,000 cap, would enable Urban Forestry to inventory an additional district in 2021/22.

## **RISK CONSIDERATION**

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this Report

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

There was no community engagement undertaken.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Approval of the recommendation in this report will permit application for additional funding to support and improve the management of the Urban Forest of Halifax.

**ALTERNATIVES**

Regional Council could opt not to support this application and direct staff to continue with the Council approved funding only.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None.

---

A copy of this report can be obtained online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Crispin Wood, Superintendent - Urban Forestry 902.225.2774

---