




INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	February 15, 2023
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Application Update on Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) Intake Two (FCS21090(a)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Tran Trang (905) 546-2424 Ext. 6151
SUBMITTED BY:	Brian McMullen Director, Financial Planning, Administration and Policy Corporate Services Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

On October 13, 2021, Council approved the City's submission, through Report FCS21090, for the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) Intake Two program and directed staff to report back on the results of the application review process. Report FCS21090(a) provides an update on the application status of the DMAF Intake Two program.

Background

In 2018, the Government of Canada launched the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) committing \$2 B over 10 years to invest in structural and natural infrastructure projects to increase the resilience of communities that are impacted by natural disasters triggered by climate change.

In 2019, the City of Hamilton was successful in the first intake for the Extreme Storms – Shoreline Protection Resilience Project for eligible project costs of \$31.7 M with 40% federal government funding of \$12.7 M. Detailed design works are underway for the Hamilton Harbour Waterfront Trail as the priority site within the DMAF shoreline project. Additional shoreline works include Archaeology works on 34 sites, Indigenous consultation, investigation and planning of various sites and studies / planning of the Desjardins Canal floating structure structural repairs.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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In July 2021, the Government of Canada announced an additional \$1.375 B in federal funding over 12 years allowing the opening of a new intake period for the DMAF. The focus of the DMAF is to provide support for large-scale community projects which provide resiliency towards hazards associated with climate change. Climate change is impacting communities across the country and is contributing to natural hazards such as storms and floods with increasing frequency and intensity. These hazards have a significant impact on critical infrastructure such as water supply, sewer systems, buildings and natural areas and shorelines. Damage to critical infrastructure can result in interruptions in essential public services, cause health and safety risks and is associated with high costs for recovery and rehabilitation.

Update

Through the approval of Report FCS21090, presented to General Issues Committee on October 6, 2021, Council endorsed the submission of an application requesting funding in the amount of \$41.338 M for a variety of projects under the second intake of the DMAF program.

In the fall of 2022, staff was advised that all of the City's applications under the Government of Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) Intake Two were unsuccessful. The applications were evaluated in two steps. Step 1 was eligibility review of written explanation regarding hazard, impact to infrastructure, benefit of the proposed work and data sources. Step 2 was merit review of the "Supporting Evidence of Asset Resilience" section of the application including the data sources and calculations. Only two of the City's applications were deemed eligible, being Basement Flooding Mitigation and High Lake Level Flooding Mitigation projects and advanced to Step 2 of the evaluation process but were ultimately unsuccessful.

Staff requested feedback from DMAF Program staff regarding the reasons our projects were not successful. Overall, more information and a stronger link to the data sources was required to support the calculations in the "Supporting Evidence of Asset Resilience" section of the DMAF applications.

Some additional feedback included:

- Detailing the situation in simple language so that the evaluator can gain a greater understanding; and,
- Creating a robust narrative link between the data sources and the supporting text for:
 - Loss of Lives and / or Missing People
 - Directly Affected People (%)
 - Local Economic Loss (%)
 - Population without Essential Services (%)

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Table 1 provides an explanation for our projects not being selected by submission type (Large Stream or Small Stream).

Table 1

Submission Type	Explanation
1. Large Stream: Escarpment Resilience - Trail Improvements	Deemed ineligible.
2. Large Stream: Wastewater / Storm Infrastructure Resiliency - Basement Flooding Mitigation	Eligible but data was not provided or not sufficient to substantiate community resilience.
3. Large Stream: Wastewater / Storm Infrastructure Resiliency - High Lake Level Mitigation	Eligible but data was not provided or not sufficient to substantiate community resilience.
4. Small Stream: Wastewater / Storm Infrastructure Resiliency - CSO Outfall Monitoring Implementation	Deemed ineligible.
5. Small Stream: Wastewater / Storm Infrastructure Resiliency - Greensville Communal Well and Pump Station	Deemed ineligible.
6. Small Stream: Wastewater / Storm Infrastructure Resiliency - Fennell/Greenhill Drop Shaft	Deemed ineligible.

A listing of all projects, totalling \$105.957 M, that were submitted in the application can be found in Report FCS21090.

TT/dt