

# Council Highlights

**June 19, 2023**

## Committee of the Whole

### Delegation – BGC Cochrane & Area

Jill Bilodeau and Maureen Topp from Boys and Girls Club, Cochrane (BGC), presented to the Committee of the Whole and requested that they consider leasing BGC the Clubhouse for their Out of School Care program due to the increasing demand being places on their services.

### Bylaw 16/2023 - Downtown Road Closure

Amanda Legros, Planner II, presented a Town led Road Closure application to Committee of the Whole. The purpose of the road closure is to close an undeveloped road allowance and consolidate it with 639 First Street West to create one larger parcel for future development.

### 2023 Cochrane's State of Asset Management

In support of Council's 2022-2025 Strategic Plan, Administration evaluated the Town's Asset Management practices using the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Readiness Scale. FCM's readiness scale provides municipalities with a tool to assess its current Asset Management practices and to identify opportunity areas for improved AM practices.

In 2022, an assessment of Cochrane's AM program done by a team of managers and supervisors identified that Cochrane is currently at a beginner level or Level 1 in terms of Asset Management practices. The Town's dedicated staff continue to adopt practices or expand the use of existing systems (e.g., Geographic Information System or GIS) to better manage, plan, operate and maintain the Town's infrastructure assets. However, a more comprehensive and systematic approach to advance our Asset Management program is required to fully achieve the benefits of a robust AM program.

### Highway 22 to Riverview Syphon Project Update

Pinky De La Cruz, Director Engineering and Asset Management provided Committee of the Whole with an update on the Highway 22 to Riverview Syphon project. In 2022, Council approved a capital budget of \$430K for the detailed design and a further \$5.151M to complete the construction.

In 2023, after the project team completed additional engineering assessment, updated total project cost came up to \$7.1M. This translates to a \$1.519M project budget deficit (i.e., a +27% budget increase). To mitigate the risks around the capacity constraints of the existing syphon and customer level of service, Administration is requesting for the additional budget of \$1.519M to complete this project this year and are requesting that this amount comes from the off-site levy debt. In addition, on this construction project, Administration is also recommending that maintenance of the existing syphon be included in the scope of this capital project. An estimated \$400K, which could be funded from operating budget reserve, will be required to install manholes and clean the existing syphon to achieve an increased capacity for this infrastructure. The first reading for this Bylaw will be on June 26, 2023, Regular Council meeting.

### Public Engagement – Communication Survey Results

Almond, Director, Organizational Strategy and Culture presented Committee of the Whole with the findings of the Communication survey, conducted by Advanis, a leading Canadian market and social research company. Advanis were engaged by the Town to ensure that we were engaging correctly with our Cochrane community. Advanis contacted 200 residents directly and the survey link was shared widely across the Town's social media platforms.

### 2022 year End Surplus Transfer

Mr. Allim, Director, Financial and Information Technology Services, presented the 2022 Net Surplus of \$2,797,516 to Committee of the Whole. Further recommendations as to which reserves the amounts will be transferred to will be presented to Council at June 26, 2023 Regular Council meeting.