

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

<b>TO:</b> Arlen Miller, Interim City Manager	<b>DATE:</b> August 29, 2023
<b>FROM:</b> Dan Lemieux, Chief Public & Protective Services Officer	<b>MEETING:</b> Public & Protective Services Committee
<b>REPORT WRITER:</b> Dan Lemieux, Chief Public & Protective Services Officer	
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Grant Application – Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA)	

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That Committee recommend Council support the City's two FRIAA grant applications for vegetation management and for FireSmart Public Education.

### PREVIOUS COUNCIL / COMMITTEE DIRECTIONS

On May 23, 2023, Committee made the following motion: "Committee direct Administration to bring back a FireSmart report to Council for consideration, including areas of need, residential covenants, and naturalization, as well as any other pertinent information."

### BACKGROUND

City Administration is submitting two applications to FRIAA. The first application is to conduct vegetation management in the Bear Creek Corridor as recommended in the Grande Prairie Wildfire Mitigation Strategy: South Bear Creek 2019. The second application is to provide public education on the FireSmart Program, including a FireSmart home assessment initiative.

Part of the application process requires a motion of Council showing support for the application(s).

### ANALYSIS

#### Relationship to City Council's Areas of Focus / Strategic Priorities

Wildfire Mitigation ensures Quality of Life, Safety and Security for residents and visitors.

## **Environmental Impact**

Wildfire Mitigation ensures the protection of our Urban Forest and ensures good air quality.

## **Economic Impact**

Wildfire Mitigation prevents the loss of structures and potential injuries.

## **Social Impact**

Wildfire Mitigation in the Bear Creek Corridor helps promote an active lifestyle in our Urban Park.

## **Relevant Statutes / Master Plans / City Documents**

Grande Prairie Wildfire Mitigation Strategy: South Bear Creek 2019

## **Risk**

Wildfires create a risk for structures and residents living near Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

## **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

Several City Departments have been actively engaged in the prevention of wildfires in the Bear Creek Corridor. With the grant funding, City Administration will engage with all interested residents in teaching FireSmart Program concepts.

## **BUDGET / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

FRIAA requires applicants to contribute financially to the expenses of approved projects. The contribution can be financial and/or through gift-in-kind. Approved grants can be up to the amount of \$200,000.

## **SUMMARY / CONCLUSION**

That Committee recommend Council support the City's two FRIAA grant applications for vegetation management and for FireSmart Public Education.

## **ATTACHMENTS**