

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: Financial & Administrative Committee	DATE:	May 13, 2025
FROM: Dan Wong, Chair Grande Prairie Police Commission	MEETING:	Financial & Administrative Committee
REPORT WRITER: Lorrie Sitler, Executive Director, Grande Prairie Police Commission		
SUBJECT: 2025 Policing Services Additional Capital Funds Request		

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Committee recommend Council amend the 2025 Capital Budget by \$1,370,000 as follows: \$925,000 - Records Management System \$45,000 - Tactical Equipment \$400,000 - Network Infrastructure All funded via the Future Expenditures Reserve (from the 2024 year-end surplus).

PREVIOUS COUNCIL / COMMITTEE DIRECTIONS

On October 29, 2024, the Grande Prairie Police Commission ("Commission") brought the 2025 Policing Services Budget and 2026 – 2028 Policing Services Projections to Council Committee of the Whole to be considered for budget deliberations. Council accepted the submitted 2025 Policing Services Budget and 2026-2028 Policing Services Projections during budget deliberations.

BACKGROUND

On July 18, 2024, the Commission approved the 2025 Policing Services Budget and the 2026-2028 Policing Services Projections. Capital requests of \$2,123,000 were submitted for 2025 and \$700,700 for 2026.

In transitioning to their own municipal police service, the City of Grande Prairie ("City") has committed to providing an enhanced level of policing for the citizens of Grande Prairie. Implementing an enhanced level of service includes the creation of a tiered policing model where Enforcement Services and Mobile Outreach fall under the command of GPPS, allowing all service areas to provide a holistic approach to service calls. Ensuring to fulfill the needs of a tiered policing model, the Grande Prairie Police Service (GPPS) has been investigating several options to fulfill operational needs. These needs include network infrastructure, a records management system (RMS), and specialty equipment.

ANALYSIS

Records Management System

The Policing Transition Report ("MNP Report") submitted by MNP in February 2023, made assumptions on the implementation of the RMS and network infrastructure needs. Capital budget requests to Council for 2025 were submitted based on these assumptions. As GPPS has continued to build up the police service, it has become apparent that some assumptions made will not support the level of service needed to support the municipal police service. One assumption was that the municipal police service would be able to use the RCMP PROS system. Unfortunately, due to the end state size of the municipal police service, this option is not viable or practical for an enhanced level of service to the citizens of Grande Prairie. It has also come to GPPS's attention that GP Enforcement Services is currently using an outdated RMS that will need to be replaced in the very near future. GPPS is working with the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) to host an RMS system that will support a tiered policing model. Additional capital funds requested to fulfill this project is \$925,000.

Network Infrastructure

The MNP Report recommended a hybrid network option where GPPS utilizes City IT for business applications but maintains policing applications separate from the City. To ensure we meet the requirements of the province to become police of jurisdiction, GPPS will need to build their own network system. The full costs for building this network fall short of what was anticipated in the report. Additional capital funds requested to fulfill this project are \$400,000.

Tactical Equipment

Additional capital costs are also needed to support the development of specialized units to reduce dependency on RCMP support post-police of jurisdiction. One initiative is the establishment of the GPPS Tactical Team, which will be responsible for managing all high-risk events within the city. As the development of this team requires considerable time, an interim solution is being put into place to assist front line-officers in mitigating risks to the community. This solution includes the creation of a containment team. Additional capital funds requested to fulfill this project are \$45,000 for 2025, further capital requests will be brought forward in 2026 to continue the development of the specialized units.

Given the adjustments needed to support the transition, the additional Capital costs being requested are \$1,370,000.

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

Quality of Life Engagement Relationships Inclusive & Caring Community

Environmental Impact

There are no notable environmental impacts related to this administrative item.

Economic Impact

An increase in capital expenditures for 2025.

Social Impact

There are no notable social impacts related to this administrative item.

Relevant Statutes / Master Plans / City Documents

2025 Policing Services Budget and 2026-2028 Policing Services Projections

<u>Risk</u>

There are no perceived risks related to this administrative item.

Alternatives (Optional)

There are no alternatives needed for this administrative item.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

No stakeholder engagement for this report.

BUDGET / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

For the 2024 fiscal year; GPPS saw operational savings from timeline shifts in the transition. The surplus funds were approved by Council to be set aside for increased capital requirements in 2025 and 2026. With approval of the capital amendment of \$1,370,000 to the 2025 capital plan, GPPS will be able to meet the 2025 and 2026 capital transition requirements. The projects in the report will commence in 2025 and be completed in 2026.

SUMMARY / CONCLUSION

The Grande Prairie Police Commission approved this capital budget request at their April 17, 2025, meeting and is recommending the Committee accept the report and recommend that Council provide an additional \$1,370,000 to complete the RMS, Network Infrastructure, and Tactical Equipment needed to fulfill a successful police transition.

ATTACHMENTS

N/A