

Ward Specific Funding Program Summary

Description:

The Ward Specific Funding Program is intended to provide a process for Councillor driven projects to move forward in a fair and transparent manner.

The Ward Specific Funding Program provides each Ward Councillor with a \$50,000 funding allocation per year for capital projects within their ward. This funding will be available for each of the four years of the Council term for a total of \$200,000.

The program allows Councillors the ability to 'roll forward' any unspent funds to future years within the four year term and that any unspent funds at the end of the four-year Council term will be returned to the reserves.

Proposed Project Criteria:

- Projects must take place on County (public) property.
- Funding must be used for capital projects such as, infrastructure (i.e. sidewalks, pedestrian crossovers, etc.) or beautification (i.e. tree planting, decorative streetlights, etc.).
- Funding can be used to accelerate/enhance projects which are part of other County programs (e.g. Urban Paving Program, Community Partnership Program, etc.) provided the cost of the acceleration/enhancement is funded by the project.
- Projects will be reviewed by County staff to ensure that all health and safety, installation warrants and legislation are met.
- Projects should support at least one of the County's three corporate priorities (Economic Opportunity; Community Health/Vibrancy; Efficient Government/Enhanced Corporate Image).
- Projects should not create significant inequity in County-wide programs (i.e. purchase of a large number of electronic speed signs for one ward).
- Projects should try where possible to not set new levels of service (i.e. park enhancements).
- Joint projects between Ward Councillors can be accommodated.
- In order to manage staff workload only one project per ward will be considered each year.

Timelines:

Prior to each year's capital budget, staff will meet with each Ward Councillor to review potential projects for the upcoming year based on the program criteria and selected ward specific projects will be included in that year's Tax Supported Capital Budget for approval.

Capital Budget Impact:

The proposed capital funding level is \$50,000 per ward per year or \$300,000 annually. The funding source is the Non Specified 20% portion of the Community Vibrancy Fund.

Operating Budget Impact:

Depending on the projects implemented it is anticipated that there will be some effects on operating costs. These operating costs will be identified however it is assumed that this program will not be responsible for covering these costs.