



AGENDA ITEM

Lacombe Athletic Park Track and Field Expansion

Policy RC(1) Funding Request

September 23, 2021

BACKGROUND

Representatives of the Lacombe Athletic Park Association (LAPA) attended the September 9, 2021 Council meeting to provide 1) an update on their Field House Expansion project, 2) a presentation in support of their request for County funding support of phase 2 of their project being the Track and Field Expansion.

A copy of their Track and Field Expansion project presentation and their Policy RC(1) application is attached.

The total cost of this project is \$2.7 million with proposed funding sources being as follows:

Community Facilities Enhancement Program (CFEP)	\$1,000,000
Canadian Communities Revitalization Fund (CCRF)	\$500,000
City of Lacombe	\$500,000
Lacombe County	\$500,000
LAPA Marketing & Fundraising Plan	<u>\$200,000</u>
 Total	 \$2,700,000

The City of Lacombe has included \$500,000 for this project in their 10-year capital plan (\$250,000 in 2022 and \$250,000 in 2023). Their commitment to this project is still subject to Council budget approval in each year.

LAPA advised that though they do not require County funding at this time they are seeking a funding commitment from the County to support their CFEP application. LAPA indicated that they would be supportive of the County providing work-in-kind as all or a portion of our contribution to this project.

Following LAPA's presentation Council directed that this project and funding request be referred to the September 16, 2021 City of Lacombe – Lacombe County IDP/ICF Committee meeting for discussion regarding the appropriateness



of applying the newly developed process for the City of Lacombe and Lacombe County considering funding requests for community group projects.

At the September 16th City of Lacombe – Lacombe County IDP/ICF Committee meeting, the committee members agreed to recommend to City and County Councils that the community group funding request process be applied to the LAPA request.

Action requested of Council regarding this matter is to decide whether to consider the LAPA request independently from the City of Lacombe or use the agreed to process for community group requests.

ANALYSIS

Though LAPA wishes to commence this project in 2022 there is still uncertainty with respect to project funding sources and levels which may ultimately delay it regardless of funding decisions made by the City and County. Likewise, LAPA is understanding and accepting of the City and County desire to follow the agreed-to process for considering funding requests from community groups, including requests from them.

Should the City and County both agree to consider the LAPA request under the new process it may be appropriate to commence this process after the October municipal election with the goal of having a final decision being made in December. This may result in the postponement of the project until 2023.

Alternatives:

1. Consider the LAPA request through the Community Groups – Facility Capital and Operating Funding Requests process. (Administrative recommendation)
2. Consider this request independent of a joint process with the City of Lacombe and defer the request to the October 14, 2021 Council meeting.
3. Take other action(s) as determined by Council.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

County support of the LAPA project would be funded through the Recreation Capital Assistance Reserve which has a projected 2021 year-end balance of \$2,043,782.



LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

Lacombe County Policy RC(1) - Capital Support of Recreation and Cultural Facilities

Section 3 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) states the purposes of a municipality are: 1) to provide good government, 2) to provide services, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the municipality, and 3) to develop and maintain safe and viable communities.

Section 180(1) of the MGA states that council may only act by resolution or bylaw.

Section 248(1)(a) of the MGA states that a municipality may only make an expenditure that is included in an operating budget, interim operating budget or capital budget unless otherwise authorized by Council.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The following elements of the County's Strategic Plan are relevant to this issue:

Our Vision: "An attractive, balanced and progressive community".

Our Mission: "Building a safe and vibrant community through leadership, innovation and the development of healthy relationships".

Key Principles: 1) "Fair and Objective in our decisions and in how we treat individuals", and 2) "Accountability for our decisions and for our actions."

Resource and Asset Management Strategy: "To manage the natural, financial and physical assets of the County in order to obtain maximum value from all of these resources".

Key Success Measures – Sustainability: "Current services are maintainable and provide benefits for the future, while minimizing negative impacts on the community", and "Shared sense of identity, regardless of municipal boundaries".

Key Success Measures – Stakeholder Satisfaction: "Healthy relationships with neighbouring municipalities, communities and our citizens."

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Lacombe County sees the value in engaging and informing the public/stakeholders through a variety of mediums as outlined in the *Policy AD(40): Public Participation*



Policy. The appropriate level of engagement for each public participation opportunity is selected on a project-to-project basis.

For this item, the following engagement will take place:

Inform: To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions

Highlights of all County Council meetings are published on the County Website and in the County News.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the following resolution:

That the Lacombe Athletic Park Association request for Lacombe County financial support of their Track and Field Expansion Project be considered through Community Groups – Facility Capital and Operating Funding Requests process as outlined in the City of Lacombe/Lacombe County Operational Cost-sharing Agreement.

PREPARED BY: Tim Timmons, County Manager

REVIEWED BY: Tim Timmons, County Manager

