

Town of Riverview

COUNCIL REPORT FORM

Presented to: Mayor and Town Council

Presented by: Colin Smith, CAO

Date: November 14, 2017

Subject: Motion – release related to Town of Riverview Recreational

Lands (PID 00667899)



Agenda Item: 11d

Meeting Date: RCM 11/14/2017

For use by Office of the Town Clerk only

BACKGROUND

As a result of the Provincial Government's decision to open the Petitcodiac Causeway gates back in 2010 the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure has been monitoring the properties along the Petitcodiac River as part of the Stage 2 Follow up Program. Since the Town owns land along the river, our property is impacted by this Provincial remediation program. The Town's land in question is parks and recreational land, PID 00667899, which includes the dog park; a ball field; soccer fields; and more recreational assets.

Due to the opening of the gates, the Province has been obligated to either compensate the Town or remediate the Town's land due to future flooding concerns associated with a potential hundred year storm event. The Province has estimated that if a 100 year storm did occur that the water levels could rise to over the 9.5 meter level, which would mean that the existing dog park would be under water for a period of time, and potentially the water would reach the level of the outfield in the ball field. Just for interest sake if the water reaches the level of 9.5 meters, the causeway will be under water as well. As part of the current Petitcodiac Project the Province is looking to address this particular matter for our property. The two options available are:

- The Province build a berm/dyke system around the Town's land to reduce the potential impact of a major storm on our property. The Town would lose some of the existing park land along the river as the berm would be built from the existing land on our property.
- The Province could provide the Town \$150,000 in lieu of the Department building a berm system to protect the park. The Town would have to sign a release to the Province authorizing this action.

If the Town were to approve the reallocation of the \$150,000 those funds could be used for other infrastructure priorities, such as the Coverdale/Gunningsville Intersection which has been flagged as a Town priority as reflected in our Designated Highway Program application. Obviously the risk to the Town if it agrees to sign a release with the Province is if flooding does occur (which based on a 100 year storm expectation it would occur) the Town's park, in particular the dog park, would be under water for a period of time and we would be obligated to address any infrastructure repairs. In the long term also

the Town would be obligated to building a berm/dyke system if it was determined that we needed one in the future.

CONSIDERATIONS

Legal: Release and Indemnity agreement will need to be signed.

Financial: financial impact noted above

Policy: n/a

Stakeholders: Town Residents and businesses

Strategic Plan: N/A

Interdepartmental Consultation: N/A

Communication Plan: N/A

Recommendation of Staff

That Town Council give direction to the Mayor and Town Clerk to sign the release and indemnity agreement with the Province of New Brunswick related to their Stage 2 Follow up Program for the Recreational Lands (PID 00667899) so the \$150,000 could be reallocated to other Town infrastructure priorities.