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**Date:** May 30, 2019

**To:** Mayor and Council

**Author:** Robert Brown, H. Ba, MCIP, RPP  
Manager, Planning Services

**RE:** Cottam Community Improvement Plan Application by  
Cottam United Church  
V/L County Road 34 W  
Pt. Lot 270, Concession STR, Part 2, RP 12R 5967

**Report No.:** PS 2019-026

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## **AIM**

To provide the Mayor and Council with details regarding an application for funding under the Cottam Community Improvement Plan.

## **BACKGROUND**

In November of 2017 Council approved the Cottam Community Improvement Plan and associated funding to support, maintain and enrich the Cottam downtown area by realizing the benefits of the area. The overall funding plan was to provide a total of \$50,000 over a five year time frame. Qualifying projects under the CCIP would be eligible for up to 25% of the cost of the project up to a maximum of \$2,500. Qualifying project could be one of the following:

1. Façade Upgrading & Improvement
2. Accessibility Upgrades
3. New Signage
4. Permanent Landscaping Infrastructure
5. Energy Efficiency Improvements

## **DISCUSSION**

The Cottam United Church is a major focal point within the Cottam Community Improvement Plan area and has made application for the development of a prayer garden on property immediately north of the church. The project details are outlined in Appendix

Ai, Aii and Aiii including the site layout. The garden represents a significant investment by the church and will be completed in two phases. Most of the costs associated with the project would be considered permanent landscaping infrastructure. Since the project is being completed in two separate phases the church has also asked for consideration of funding for each phase, i.e. 25% per phase.

The CCIP did not place a limit per property on the number of applications that could be considered but rather noted that consideration of multiple applications would be considered based on the number of applications filed that year from the entire CCIP and available funding. Since this is the only application that has been received this year and that no funding applications were approved last year administration has no objection or concerns with the church requesting funding per phase. Based on the project costs the maximum funding of \$2,500 would be available for each phase

## **LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Promote the betterment, self-image and attitude of the community.

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

A total of \$20,000 was allocated to the initial year of the CCIP in 2018. None of this funding was used and as such was placed in reserve for use in future years in accordance with the CCIP funding plan. The remaining \$15,000 will continue to be available for funding requests in 2019.

## **CONSULTATIONS**

Management Staff

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Council approve the Cottam Community Improvement Plan funding application for the design, purchase and installation of permanent landscaping infrastructure associated with the proposed prayer garden for Cottam United Church as follows:

Phase One - \$2,500

Phase Two - \$2,500

*Robert Brown*

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Robert Brown, H, Ba, MCIP, RPP  
Manager, Planning Services

*Peggy Van Mierlo-West*

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Peggy Van Mierlo-West, C.E.T.  
Chief Administrative Officer