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To: Mayor and Council

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Manager, Planning Services

RE: Cottam Community Improvement Plan

Report No.: PDS 2017-042

AIM

To provide the Mayor and Council with the final details of the Cottam Community Improvement Plan along with the by-law for the implementation Cottam CIP.

BACKGROUND

Since late 2015 administration has been working with Council, the residents and business owners of the proposed Cottam CIP to develop and implement a Community Improvement Plan to provide a mechanism to provide financial incentives to the Cottam CIP area. An introductory public open house was held in September of 2016 with a follow-up meeting in August of 2017 to outline the potential financial incentive options. The idea of local improvement was well received. As a result of the last meeting it was suggested by the community that a committee be established to help direct efforts to improve the Cottam downtown. To that end a Community Revitalization Committee is being established.

DISCUSSION

Based on the general feedback at the August open house and discussion with administration on the financial options that were outlined to Council it is suggested that the initial form of the Cottam CIP utilize one financial option which will focus efforts and support on the general aesthetic improvement of the downtown area. This will include a grant toward items such as façades, permanent landscaping, signage, accessibility and energy efficiency improvements. The full Community Improvement Plan is attached as Appendix 'A'

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Support growth of the business community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

During the financial options presentation to Council a motion was approved for the initial commitment of \$50,000 toward the Cottam CIP, subject to budget consideration in 2018. As no timeframe was outlined it has been suggested in the Cottam CIP that the initial commitment per year would start at \$20,000 in an effort to provide opportunity to at least 8 property owners per year with a total project timeframe of five years.

CONSULTATIONS

Administration, Council, property owners in the Cottam CIP area.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approve the Cottam Community Improvement Plan and adopt the implementing by-law.

Robert Brown

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

Peggy Van Mierlo-West

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