

REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE:	February 14, 2022
TITLE:	Motion - Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy
DIVISION:	Planning & Infrastructure

SUMMARY:

A notice of motion was brought forward by Councillor MacDonald at the January 24, 2022 Regular Council Meeting. The motion has been placed on the agenda for consideration by Council.

PROPOSED MOTION:

THAT Administration accelerate the development of the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy by engaging with a third party consultant for a fee not to exceed \$45,000 to develop a plan that promotes both community and City adoption of electric vehicles, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and that the strategy development be funded from unrestricted reserves.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

A notice of motion was provided by Councillor MacDonald at the January 24, 2022 Regular Council Meeting.

In accordance with Council Procedure Bylaw C-742-09, as amended, once notice is given at a Regular Council Meeting, the motion will automatically appear on the agenda of the next Regular Council Meeting unless otherwise stated.

The 2022-2024 Corporate Plan approved by Council at the end of 2021 reflected a project to develop an Electric Vehicle Strategy internally that focused on the conversion of current fleet within municipal operations and that one Level 2 charging unit be purchased and installed. The timing of this project would envision that a strategy be completed by the fall and that a charging station be purchased and installed prior to the end of 2022.

Funding from the Government of Canada and Government of Alberta has been made available through the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) to cover 100% of the cost for the purchase of charging stations as well as the installation of the units. The total funding envelope is \$3.4 million and is capped for municipalities at various levels depending on the level of charging stations purchased (\$10,000 to \$200,000).

The grant does not include the cost to install the power to the unit, nor the ongoing maintenance and operating cost of each unit. Estimates vary depending on charger power requirements and whether or not the City will charge a fee for the service.

Through advancement of the strategy, the intention is to maximize the City's ability to fully access the grant funds available.

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

The options for Council's consideration is to support the proposed motion, modify the proposed motion, or to not support the motion. Through conversations with both the grant provider and a third party consultant, Administration believes that the proposed \$45,000 within the motion could be reduced to \$25,000. The wording, however, of the current motion would suffice as it is worded to <u>not exceed</u> \$45,000.

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

To date, the consultation has been through discussion with Councillor MacDonald, the MCCAC grant administrator and a third party consultant to seek clarity for the possibility of advancing the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy.

MCCAC is also hosting an information session on February 3. Administration has registered for the session.

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

The MCCAC has provided a list of preferred vendors and Administration will likely select a consultant from the list in order to meet the intent of the motion to advance the timing of the strategy.

It is anticipated that the strategy could be completed by the end of April. Administration will work with the consultant to reduce the timelines where possible.

IMPACTS:

Potential impacts to the success of this project is the availability of the consultant and the availability of Fortis to deliver the power required to the charging units. There is also a potential that optimal locations determined through the strategy could be affected by other capital projects, such as the City Centre Area Redevelopment Plan project.

The anticipated result of advancing the strategy is that the community and municipal operations will have access to Electric Vehicle charging stations, will support the reduction of Green House Gas emissions (future Electric Vehicle purchases) and support economic development by offering options for visitors to charge and shop within the community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

From a financial perspective, Administration believes that the project should not exceed \$25,000 and is recommended to be funded through unrestricted reserves.

STRATEGIC VISION ELEMENT:

Where People Choose to Live - A dynamic city with and exceptional quality of life

RELATED GOAL:

Spruce Grove is a well-planned city, with a high ease of community connectivity and mobility for transportation and walkability.