Minute No. 630
Report – Executive Policy Committee – July 13, 2022

Item No. 3 Building Safer Communities Fund: Initial Proposal Overview

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That the Public Service be directed to submit an initial proposal to Public Safety Canada for the Building Safer Communities Fund (BSCF).

2. That, subject to the approval of the application by Public Safety Canada, authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Office to enter into a multi-year contribution agreement with the Federal Government for the adjudication and management of the BSCF.

3. That, subject to the approval of the application by Public Safety Canada, Council approve the incremental term FTE(s) associated with the delivering of this federal program, to be completely funded by the BSCF.

4. That, subject to the approval of the application by Public Safety Canada, authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to lead an Expression of Interest process to solicit potential grant recipients and enter into grant agreements, with successful applicants based on the recommendations of the review committee.

5. That, subject to the approval of the application by Public Safety Canada, the Public Service report back to the Executive Policy Committee by December 2023 with a summary of the successful grant recipients for the BSCF as approved by Public Safety Canada.

6. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Bowman,
That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 13, 2022, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to Council.

On May 18, 2022, the Executive Policy Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS Public Safety Canada recently launched the Building Safer Communities Fund (BSCF) to support municipalities and Indigenous communities in developing community-based prevention and intervention strategies and initiatives to tackle gun and gang activities;

AND WHEREAS BSCF seeks to curb violent crime by supporting upstream, crime prevention through social development strategies;

AND WHEREAS Police services or authorities are not eligible to receive funding, or re-distributed funds;

AND WHEREAS Based on crime severity and population data, Winnipeg has been identified by Public Safety Canada as a priority municipality;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has been invited by Public Safety Canada to administer the local distribution of up to $4,544,138 in project funding over the next four years, beginning in Spring of 2022;

AND WHEREAS the proposed format would see the City of Winnipeg act as program administrator, redistributing this funding to community-based organizations delivering programs that engage children, youth and young adults in skill-based activities, trauma-recovery, and/or focusing on departure from gangs;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

AND WHEREAS Public Safety Canada's regional project officer recommended the City of Winnipeg begin by submitting a proposal requesting funds as needed to ensure sufficient service capacity for successful project delivery;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Community Services Department, on behalf of the Winnipeg Public Service, be directed to explore next steps to submit a proposal to Public Safety Canada to access the Building Safer Communities Fund, and report back to the Executive Policy Committee in time for its July 2022 meeting with a report outlining the key details of its proposal and other relevant considerations as identified by the Public Service.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Building Safer Communities Fund: Initial Proposal Overview

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
C. Brens	C. Fernandes	C. Kloepfer	M. Jack

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government of Canada recently launched the Building Safer Communities Fund (BSCF) to support municipalities and Indigenous communities in developing community-based prevention and intervention strategies and initiatives to tackle gun and gang activities. Based on crime severity and population data, Public Safety Canada has identified Winnipeg as a priority municipality, and $4,544,138 will be available through the BSCF for Winnipeg-based projects over the next four years, beginning in Spring of 2022.

To access these funds, the City is required to function as a program administrator, providing intake, adjudication, and contract management for local project grants over the four-year term of the BSCF program. To proceed, the City of Winnipeg has been invited to submit an initial proposal to Public Safety Canada providing a high-level overview of how it will manage this funding program and also identify any additional administrative capacity required for successful program delivery.

As police services are ineligible to re-distribute the BSCF, the Community Services Department will lead the delivery of the BSCF program. This report provides an outline of key administrative elements and considerations to be included in the City's initial proposal, and seeks authority to move forward with next steps.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Public Service be directed to submit an initial proposal to Public Safety Canada for the Building Safer Communities Fund (BSCF).

2. That, subject to the approval of the application by Public Safety Canada, authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Office to enter into a multi-year contribution agreement with the Federal Government for the adjudication and management of the BSCF.

3. That, subject to the approval of the application by Public Safety Canada, Council approve the incremental term FTE(s) associated with the delivering of this federal program, to be completely funded by the BSCF.

4. That, subject to the approval of the application by Public Safety Canada, authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to lead an Expression of Interest process to solicit potential grant recipients and enter into grant agreements, with successful applicants based on the recommendations of the review committee.

5. That, subject to the approval of the application by Public Safety Canada, the Public Service report back to the Executive Policy Committee by December 2023 with a summary of the successful grant recipients for the BSCF as approved by Public Safety Canada.

6. That the proper officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On May 18, 2022, the Executive Policy Committee directed the Community Services Department, on behalf of the Public Service, to explore next steps to submit a proposal to Public Safety Canada to access the BSCF, and report back to the Executive Policy Committee at its July 2022 meeting with a report outlining the key details of its proposal and other relevant considerations as identified by the Public Service.

Council approval is required to increase FTE(s).

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

If the City's proposal is approved by Public Safety Canada, the administration of the BSCF will be a new initiative for the City of Winnipeg, and additional temporary/term staffing will be required to administer this program. However, as staffing costs will be recovered from the fund itself, no incremental costs to the City are anticipated.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

Public Safety Canada recently launched the Building Safer Communities Fund (BSCF) to support municipalities and Indigenous communities in developing community-based prevention and intervention strategies and initiatives to tackle gun and gang activities. While the focus of BSCF is reducing violent crime and gang activity, it is set up to achieve these goals by supporting upstream, crime prevention through social development strategies. Complete details on the BSCF are included in the Fact Sheet provided by Public Safety Canada (Attachment 1).

According to the BSCF Submission Guide (Attachment 2), eligible activities must support the achievement of BSCF objectives and must be domestic in scope. The BSCF objectives include:

- Development of a strategy on gun and gang violence.

- Development and delivery of prevention intervention initiatives addressing risk factors associated with gun and gang violence, including but not limited to mentoring, counselling, skills development and recreational opportunities.
- Development or enhancement of data systems to support data gathering and reporting on gun and gang crime or on results achieved.
- Development of knowledge to fill gaps at the community and recipient level, including research, and sharing of information and/or best practices related to gun and gang violence.
- Outreach and recruitment of preventative initiatives or intervention participants.
- Public awareness and education.
- Collaboration and integration of horizontal initiatives related to gun and gang violence.
- Development of a plan to sustain successful preventative initiatives or intervention activities beyond the end of the contribution agreement.
- Any other prevention and intervention initiatives as developed in consultation with the program authority.

These objectives align with a number of City policies and strategies including OurWinnipeg, the recently-approved Recreation Strategy, the existing LiveSAFE Policy, the forthcoming Safe City by Design Policy, the Newcomer Welcome and Inclusion Policy, and the Poverty Reduction Strategy. In addition to this alignment, and building off of partnerships and lessons learned through the recent implementation of several new grants including the 24/7 Safe Space Grant, the Mobile Outreach Support Services Grant, the Rapid Housing Initiative and the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Grant, the City of Winnipeg is well positioned to lead the program administration of the BSCF.

To proceed with this opportunity, the City of Winnipeg has been invited to submit an initial proposal to Public Safety Canada. It is important to note that this initial proposal is not the full Funding Submission requested by Public Safety Canada (Attachment 3). The initial proposal is intended to outline at a high level the intake, adjudication and management considerations required for successful program delivery. To meet this requirement, the City's initial proposal will include three main elements:

1. Strong Accountability and Management Capacity

The City's initial proposal will include a request for administrative funds to support the hiring of one full-time Analyst for the four-year duration of the BSCF program. This individual will support the administration of the BSCF and the coordination of program funding. The Analyst will also lead the ongoing evaluation of the program and its outcomes, and link these outcomes to community trends related to community safety and wellbeing and the program objectives set out by Public Safety Canada. A review of the current Community Services Department's FTE compliment has determined that none are available to be re-tasked for the new Analyst position. This staff member will work within the Community Development Division, and as funding for this position will be recovered from the BSCF, there are no budget implications for the Department.

2. A Proven Review Process

The City's application will also outline how the Public Service will lead an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to solicit BSCF projects, review applications, and award program funding through short term grants. In particular, the Public Service will replicate similar processes used to facilitate the 24/7 Safe Space Grant, the Mobile Outreach Support Services Grant, and the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Granting program.

The City's initial proposal will outline its intent to lead a new EOI process beginning in the fall of 2022, with one annual intake period in 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 to identify grant recipients who will receive funding through the BSCF program. Similar to the EOI processes noted above, the City will use a Representative Application Review Committee, led by the Community Development Division. The review committee will include a broad membership consisting of one representative from: a Winnipeg-based Indigenous organization; Winnipeg-based ethnocultural organization; the Winnipeg Committee for Safety; and Manitoba's Department of Justice. The committee will also have one representative from Winnipeg Police Service, the Indigenous Relations Division, and the Community Development Division. The Review Committee will utilize both a weighted scoring matrix and a soft consensus decision-making model to select successful applicants and identify the amount of funding to be received by each agency. The following section provides more detail on the evaluation criteria, while Attachment 4 provides an overview of the soft consensus decision making model.

3. Clearly Articulated Evaluation Criteria

The City's initial proposal will outline how the City will evaluate potential BSCF program applicants. All applicants will be reviewed and ranked against essential eligibility requirements per Public Safety Canada, key evaluation criteria, and priority populations. Similar to previous EOI review processes, all applicants are required to be non-profit organizations, and all activities are required to take place in the City of Winnipeg. Applicants will also be assessed against their ability to meet key evaluation criteria that includes, but may not be limited to:

- Provide programs that engage children, youth and young adults in skill-based activities, trauma-recovery, and/or focusing on departure from gangs.
- Offer culturally-appropriate programs and supports and/or identify as an Indigenous organization and/or provide Indigenous-led services and/or partner with Indigenous-led organizations.
- Utilize a harm-reduction and trauma-informed approach to service delivery.
- Hire, retain and support Indigenous staff and staff with lived experience.
- Use a person-centered approach to supporting community members.
- Demonstrate collaboration with partner groups to encourage a coordinated approach to reducing violence and criminal activity.

In addition to the essential eligibility requirements and the evaluation criteria, applicants will be asked to demonstrate how they directly support one or more of the following priority populations:

- Children and/or youth
- Indigenous community members
- 2SLGBTQQIA+ community members
- Individuals exiting institution or 'aging out' of existing supports
- Sexually exploited girls and women

- Lone-parent households
- People experiencing poverty
- Racialized communities

Next Steps and Discussion

As discussed above, to access these funds, the City is required to function as a program administrator for local project grants over the four-year term of the BSCF Federal program. To proceed, the City of Winnipeg has been invited to submit an initial proposal to Public Safety Canada providing a high-level overview of how it would manage this funding program and also identify any additional administrative capacity required for successful program delivery.

This report is seeking authority to move forward with submitting a proposal based on the above information, and delegated authority to the CAO to support the facilitation of this work. If approved, and if the City's initial proposal is approved by Public Safety Canada, the City will enter into a multi-year contribution agreement with the Federal Government for the administration of the BSCF.

Upon doing so, and beginning in the fall of 2022, the Public Service will then lead an EOI process to solicit potential BSCF grant recipients. Once selected by the Representative Application Review Committee, the projects will be incorporated into the City's formal Funding Submission (Attachment 3) and submitted to Public Safety Canada for review and approval. If the City's funding submission is approved by Public Safety Canada, the Public Service will enter into funding agreements with the identified grant recipients, and begin to operate the BSCF until the conclusion of the four-year term of the BSCF program.

While the final decision related to the approval or denial of the City's recommended grant recipients rests with Public Safety Canada, the Public Service will report back to Council with information summarizing the successful grant recipients, once identified.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** June 24, 2022

Project Name: **First Year of Program** **2022**

Building Safer Communities Fund: Initial Proposal Overview

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 23,726	$ 96,802	$ 98,738	$ 100,713	$ 102,727
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	23,726	96,802	98,738	100,713	102,727
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	-	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: If the City's proposal is accepted, the administration of the Building Safer Communities Fund (BSCF) will be a new initiative for the City of Winnipeg.

Direct costs represent salary and benefits for additional staffing requirements to administer the program: one (1) temporary WAPSO 3 FTE with an anticipated start date of October 1, 2022 for a four year term ending December 31, 2026. The position is increased annually in accordance with collective agreements.

As staffing costs will be recovered from the fund itself, no additional mill rate support is required.

O. Garrett June 24, 2022

Ozzy Garrett, CPA, CGA
Acting Manager of Finance and Administrative Services
Community Services Department

CONSULTATION

N/A

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

The current OurWinnipeg development plan (2009) recognizes community safety as one of many key approaches to fulfilling the plan's vision. This is explained in more detail in the Collaborate to Make Safe Communities section (01-2a):

- Direction 7: Implement an approach to safety and security that is collaborative and involves the community. This direction requires that the Public Service (A) build partnerships with community leaders / organizations aimed at providing effective and complete services in jointly-identified priority areas, and (B) continue supporting and fostering relationships with community organizations to develop public safety strategies.

- Direction 8: Help people and communities make safe places in safe neighbourhoods. This direction requires that the Public Service use tools such as safety audit kits, community audits and community safety plans to educate the general public and raise personal safety and security awareness.

These Direction statements were intended to support a "collaborative, broad-scaled and complete approach to safety and security". They provide important guidelines for action and are as relevant in the current context as they were when originally published. Since they are not entirely prescriptive in nature, these statements assume a need for further Public Service planning between stakeholder departments to support their advancement, as well the assignment of dedicated, upstream community safety resources in those departments. BSCF delivery and the corresponding increase in administrative capacity for Safety and Wellbeing will strengthen the City's ability to achieve the goals.

With the updated OurWinnipeg 2045 development plan expected to be finalized imminently, it is important to acknowledge that this new plan also recognizes community safety as a key approach through the goal of Good Health and Well-being: "proactively identify and address threats to community safety and well-being". Further, this objective requires the City to "facilitate a culture of safety and crime prevention across the City and community, by building trusting relationships to enable collaborative action".

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

N/A

WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

The information and recommendations presented in this report align with and advance the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy (2021–2031) as follows:

They embody the following Guiding Principles:

- We will Uphold Human Rights
- We will Honour Relationships and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples
- We will Address Systemic Oppression, Trauma and Social Inequity
- We will Promote and Maintain the Welfare of All Residents
- We will Develop Trust and Meaningful Partnerships to find solutions and drive change.

Administering BSCF and corresponding efforts to build capacity across sectors, collect and share data, and improve community/individual safety and wellbeing aligns with the following Poverty Reduction Strategy's implementation plan action items:

- Working collaboratively with community stakeholders, people with lived experience, and City departments to create a "community safety and well-being plan" that includes short, medium, and long-term action plans.
- Build relationships with community organizations that promote and ensure the safety and security of people working in the sex industry, particularly Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people, and discuss ways the City could support and enhance their work.
- Prepare an updated summary of relevant poverty-related statistics for Winnipeg in order to inform the development of the next Poverty Reduction Strategy Implementation Plan (2024 – 2027).

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Community Services
Division: Community Development
Prepared by: Greg MacPherson, Chris Brens
Date: June 24, 2022
File No: CMS-2022-14

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Building Safer Community Fund Fact Sheet

Attachment 2: Funding Submissions Guide

Attachment 3: Funding Submission Form

Attachment 4: Soft Consensus Decision Making Model