

Request for Decision

Participation in the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative (MI3) - Social Housing

Presented To:	Community Services Committee
Presented:	Monday, Dec 03, 2012
Report Date	Thursday, Nov 15, 2012
Type:	Managers' Reports

Recommendation

Be it resolved that Council endorses the municipality's participation in the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative (MI3) – Social Housing Asset Management Program, and

That funding received under the Province's Delivering Opportunities for Ontario Renters Program (DOORS) be made available to supplement the initiative, and

That the Manager, Housing Services be authorized to sign program agreements with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and with program participants related to the MI3 Social Housing Asset Management initiative, and

Further that the Manager, Housing Services be authorized to distribute the funding in accordance with the MI3 Social Housing Asset Management initiative requirements, and

That the appropriate by-law be prepared.

Signed By

Report Prepared By

Denis Desmeules
Director of Housing services
Digitally Signed Nov 16, 12

Division Review

Denis Desmeules
Director of Housing services
Digitally Signed Nov 16, 12

Recommended by the Department

Catherine Matheson
General Manager of Community Development
Digitally Signed Nov 16, 12

Recommended by the C.A.O.

Doug Nadorozny
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed Nov 16, 12

Finance Implications

Senior government program funding will be utilized to offset all program costs associated with this new housing initiative.

Background

On August 16, 2012, the Ministry of Infrastructure (MOI) announced funding for the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative (MI3). The funding will be provided to select municipalities to improve municipal asset management practices for roads, bridges, water and wastewater infrastructure.

One component of MI3 is funded and administered by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH). It specifically targets social housing in recognition of the value that the social housing stock represents to the municipal infrastructure base. Select Service Managers will be able to access the funding to support asset management planning within their social housing portfolio.

Program Details

The MI3 Social Housing Asset Management funds must be used for asset planning activities that will help inform decisions related to the condition and viability of social housing units. It is important to note that funding cannot be used for specific project capital expenditures. Examples of acceptable program expenditures include:

- Purchase of asset planning software
- Conducting building condition audits and/or assessments
- Educating and/or promoting housing board members and staff on strategic asset management
- Developing training packages to build capacity on assessment management for housing staff
- Creating tools to identify long-term capital needs

The initiative does not require any municipal contributions though municipalities are encouraged to contribute funding and/or resources as they deem appropriate.

The City of Greater Sudbury has been approved to receive a total allocation of \$40,458 over a three year period (\$13,486/year). Any funds not used in any given year must be returned to the Province.

Participation in the new housing programs is consistent with the CGS Affordable Housing Strategy and the Official Plan.

Next Steps

With approval, Housing Services staff will execute the Ministry's MI3 Social Housing agreement. A business plan will be prepared in accordance to program guidelines and submitted to MMAH for review/approval.

Housing Services staff will then ensure that the full annual funding is utilized in accordance to program requirements. It is expected that the funding will be utilized to acquire asset management software for local providers and develop/deliver asset management training and tools to provider board members and staff. This will assist them in better planning for capital expenditures and ultimately improve the long term viability of the social housing portfolio.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the municipality participate in the MI3 Social Housing Asset Management Program initiative.