

To: CAO for the Regional and Corporate Services Committee

Date: 2019-11-14

From: Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services

File No:

Subject: Hope Connector Transit System Establishment Amendment - Requisition

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board consider giving three readings to the bylaw cited as *Fraser Valley Regional District Hope Connector Transit System Service Area Amendment Bylaw No. 1555, 2019*.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Support Healthy & Sustainable Community
Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

PRIORITIES

Priority #2 Air & Water Quality
Priority #4 Tourism

BACKGROUND

The Hope Connector Sub-Regional Transit System Service Area was established in 2017. The service is funded through a combination of transit fares/passes, provincial grants and property value taxes. While the annual tax requisition is set during the financial planning process, the maximum allowable requisition is noted in the establishing bylaw. For this service that maximum is currently \$180,200.

DISCUSSION

As part of the 2020 financial planning process it has been noted that the proposed tax requisition of \$184,870 will be over the maximum allowable in the establishing bylaw. Staff are proposing to increase the maximum by an amount "less than or equal to 25%" as provided under BC Reg 113/2007 which exempts a Board adopted bylaw from Inspector approval under certain parameters.

The current maximum requisition is \$180,200, which increased by 25% would equal an amended maximum requisition of \$225,250. In addition, staff are proposing that the amendment bylaw reflect a rate per \$1,000 calculation as allowed under LGA 339(1)(e) in order to provide the Board with flexibility in setting future tax requisition levels during the financial planning process. The 2019 revised roll net taxable value for the service area is \$1,450,376,925. The proposed rate of \$0.155 per \$1,000 would

calculate a maximum tax requisition of \$224,808.42 which is less than the 25% maximum allowable increase.

COST

Amendments to service area establishment bylaw requisition limits do not have a direct financial impact as the actual requisition level is set by the Board through the adoption of the annual financial plan bylaw.

CONCLUSION

To be proactive and provide flexibility for tax requisition growth in the Hope Connector Transit System Service Area, staff are proposing an amendment to the maximum requisition level that is included in the establishing bylaw.

COMMENTS BY:

Stacey Barker, Director of Regional Services

Reviewed and supported.

Jennifer Kinneman, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed and supported.