

To: CAO for the Electoral Area Services Committee
From: Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services

Date: 2019-12-10
File No:

Subject: Boston Bar Street Lighting Service Conversion and Amendment

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board consider giving three readings to *Fraser Valley Regional District Boston Bar Street Lighting Service Area Conversion and Amendment Bylaw No. 1557, 2019*.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Support Healthy & Sustainable Community
Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

PRIORITIES

Priority #2 Air & Water Quality

BACKGROUND

The Regional District of Fraser-Cheam established the Boston Bar Street Lighting Specified Area in 1973. The service is mostly funded through assessment based 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 \$10,500.

DISCUSSION

As part of the 2020 financial planning process it has been noted that the proposed tax requisition of \$14,080 will be over the maximum allowable in the establishing bylaw.

The current maximum requisition is \$10,500, and Staff are proposing that it be amended so the maximum requisition would be approximately \$16,000 based on the 2019 assessment roll. 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 \$23,916,420. The proposed rate of \$0.67 per \$1,000 would calculate a maximum tax requisition of \$16,024.

As part of the amendment process, Ministry staff have advised the Regional District that this service also needs to be converted from a "specified area" to a "service area" in keeping with updated legislation and requirements in the Local Government Act. This conversion had been included in the proposed bylaw.

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 Boston Bar Street Lighting Service Area, Staff are proposing an amendment to the maximum requisition level that is included in the establishing bylaw.

COMMENTS BY:

Jennifer Kinneman, Acting Chief Administrative Officer: Reviewed and supported.