

#### CORPORATE REPORT

To: Electoral Area Services Committee	Date: 2020-03	3-10
From: Louise Hinton, Bylaw Compliance & Enforcement Officer	File No:	4300-70-2020-
01		

# Subject: Special Event – 2020 REVEL Race Chilliwack Marathon & Half Event, Chilliwack River Valley (Area E)

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve the Class II Special Event Licence No. 2020-01 for the second REVEL Race Series Chilliwack Marathon & Half Event to be held on Saturday July 25, 2020, subject to the receipt of all required documentation necessary to complete the application;

AND THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board waive the requirement for a security fee;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize FVRD signatories to execute all legal instruments associated with the Special Event Licence No. 2020-01.

#### STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Foster a Strong & Diverse Economy Support Healthy & Sustainable Community Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

# PRIORITIES

Priority #4 Tourism Priority #5 Outdoor Recreation

# BACKGROUND

Brooksee LLC is an endurance event provider who is requesting the Regional District's conditional approval for their second annual special event, the REVEL Series Chilliwack Marathon & Half Event on Saturday, July 25, 2020, located partially in the Chilliwack River Valley. This large event is a Boston Marathon qualifier event that is expected to draw around 800 participants, volunteers, and even more supporters. The Regional District's *Special Events Bylaw No. 011, 1997* requires that all events of more than 200 people require a special events permit issued by the Regional District.

#### DISCUSSION

The REVEL Marathon & Half Race is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2020. An application has been received on behalf of the host of the event, Brooksee LLC. The applicant must still submit the following items for the application to be considered complete:

- 1. Insurance document
- 2. Ministry of Transportation Approval (MOTI)
- 3. British Columbia Provincial Parks Approval
- 4. Approval from the Chilliwack RCMP (Police)
- 5. Approvals for Emergency Services / Fire Protection
  - a. FVRD Electoral Area Emergency Services
  - b. Chilliwack River Valley Fire Department
  - c. Chilliwack Fire Department
- 6. Copy of City of Chilliwack Special Event Permit

The applicant must submit the remaining items no later than 30 days prior to the event. The Special Event Licence (Appendix "B") provides that preliminary approval may be given as per s. 11 of the Bylaw subject to receipt of the remaining items.

Approximately 800 participants are expected to attend the event, plus 300 local volunteers. As such, the event is classified as a Class II Special Event per s.6 of the bylaw:

"Class II Special Event" means a SE having an attendance of 500 or more people and less than 1000 people or any SE the RD expects will have an attendance of 500 or more people and less than 1000 people.

The REVEL Series Chilliwack Marathon race is partially in the Chilliwack River Valley and includes both full Marathon and Half Marathon race routes. The full race route will begin from the entrance area of Chilliwack Provincial Park at the Chilliwack Lake Forest Service Road, travelling westbound 19.63 kilometres (12.2 miles) along Chilliwack Lake Road. Participants will then enter the City of Chilliwack and move through the Vedder Road round-a-bout, finishing their race within the City of Chilliwack at GW Graham Secondary School (see Route Map - Appendix A). The majority of the event is a single lane foot race along Chilliwack Lake Road, in Electoral Area E. The Regional District roadways are overseen by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI), who are supportive and involved with the planning of this second annual event. Approvals are also required from Provincial Parks, the RCMP, and local emergency services. Preliminary approval has already been granted by the City of Chilliwack.

All participants in the race will be shuttled on buses from within two private third-party designated parking areas on Caen Avenue in the City of Chilliwack to the event starting line at the entrance of Chilliwack Lake Provincial Park. The applicant has provided us with a very detailed operations plan for reference (See attachments).

The Electoral Area E Director Orion Engar identified prior to the inaugural event in 2019 the importance of traffic control along Chilliwack Lake Road to address the volume and speed of vehicles to ensure the safety of the participants.

The traffic control will be again be provided for the duration of the event at the sole cost to the applicant; it has been tailored to reduce the possibility of traffic congestion on Chilliwack Lake

Road (see the passing lane map in Appendix A, and the attached traffic plan submitted by the applicant):

- The eastbound traffic flow will be predominantly open (because most traffic at this time of day will be heading eastbound).
- There will be 3 Passing Zones (please see the map below for locations). Each Passing Zone will have three narrower "lanes" delineated by pylons for each of the following: Lane 1) Runners, 2) Westbound Traffic, and 3) Eastbound Traffic.
- Westbound traffic will queue up at each Passing Zone.
- Once it is determined that the westbound vehicles should be released, the eastbound lanes will close temporarily to allow the westbound traffic to travel to the next Passing Zone (this will function like a rolling closure).

As roadways within the Regional District are the jurisdiction of MOTI, all final approvals of traffic plans will be completed through the MOTI permitting process. There were some struggles with cell service and radio communication blank spots during the 2019 inaugural event that the organizers have already been working with MOTI and their traffic control provider to resolve. Organizers have promised to improve their communication plans to go 'over and above' to inform the directly affected residents of the traffic control plan for the morning of the event. Organizers have also promised to take extra steps to ensure that precautions are in place to accommodate any potential emergency traffic.

There will be a total of 14 aid stations located approximately every two miles along the entire race route, beginning near mile three of the full marathon route. Aid stations will be located on large shoulders and or turnoff points adjacent to the runner lane so as to not obstruct the highway. These aid stations will provide an opportunity for racers to refuel and rehydrate throughout their run. Three of the aid stations (Aid Stations D, H & K on the attached Map) will be attended by trained medical personnel who will have medical supplies, first aid kits, AED systems and other life support / lifesaving equipment.

There will be portable restrooms set up at each aid station along the route, as well as the start and finish lines. They will be delivered the day before the race and removed immediately following the race. Total numbers will be determined by the supplier based on the number of participants, estimated to be 5 - 8 at each station and 30 - 40 at each the start and finish lines. There will be an abundant number of refuse containers at both starting lines, each aid station, and at multiple locations at the finish venue.

The organizer expects to have about 300 local volunteers assist with the event. Most of the volunteers are recruited from charitable organizations or school groups who will receive a monetary donation in exchange for their volunteer efforts. In addition, the organizer intends to contribute to the Chilliwack Vedder River Cleanup Society to provide local benefits from the event. During the 2019 inaugural event, Brooksee LLC partnered with the Chilliwack Vedder River

Cleanup Society and was able to provide charitable funds to this community organization. The organizer wishes to keep the society as the main partner as they feel it is a great partnership that will grow as the event grows.

The organizers have a plan for communicating with local residents and businesses in the weeks leading up to the event. Mail out correspondence will explain traffic control plans, delays and other issues related to the event and provide full contact information. They are also looking to partner with the Chamber of Commerce in Chilliwack to ensure that businesses know what to expect and provide opportunities to gain financial benefits from the event.

As Per Bylaw No. 0111, a security of \$20,000 may be required from the applicant at the discretion of the Fraser Valley Regional Board. This event is being held primarily on Ministry of Transportation Roads and no Regional District lands are being used. In addition, the applicant is experienced in organizing similar races in different locations all over the United States. The inaugural event was held last year on August 18, 2019, with the same route and subject to similar comments outlined in the recommendation above. It was run with very few concerns from local residents. Staff recommends waiving the requirement for a security fee from the applicant.

# COST

The organizer will fund costs for the entire event, including notification and traffic control. There are no direct costs to the Fraser Valley Regional District.

The applicant has paid a \$600 Class II Special Event Licence fee.

#### CONCLUSION

Staff recommends preliminary approval of Special Event Licence No. 2020-01 subject to the receipt of all required documentation necessary to complete the application.

#### COMMENTS BY:

Graham Daneluz, Director of Planning & Development	Reviewed and supported
Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services	No further financial comment.
Jennifer Kinneman, Acting Chief Administrative Officer	Reviewed and supported.

# Appendix "A Marathon Race Route Map



## **ELEVATION MAP**



# PASSING LANE MAP







#### Schedule "B"

Special Events Bylaw No. 0111, 1997 A bylaw to provide for the regulation of "special events" in all electoral areas of the Fraser Valley Regional District

## SPECIAL EVENT LICENCE

License Number:	2020-01
Date Issued:	TBA
Promoter:	Brooksee LLC
Location of Event:	Chilliwack River Valley / Sardis Areas Chilliwack Provincial Park, Chilliwack Lake Road & the City of Chilliwack
Property Owner(s) with Civic Address:	Description of Land:
None.	None.
Nature of Special Event:	REVEL Race Series Chilliwack Marathon & Half Event
Nature of Special Event: Date of Special Event:	REVEL Race Series Chilliwack Marathon & Half Event Saturday July 25, 2020

Jason Lum FVRD Board Chair Jennifer Kinneman Acting Chief Administrative Officer