

Municipality of Lakeshore – Report to Council

Operations

Energy Management and Utilities



To: Mayor & Members of Council
From: Marco Villella, P.Eng., Division Leader – Energy Management and Utilities
Date: April 5, 2024
Subject: Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station Grant Funding Approval

Recommendation

Accept the grant funding for the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations from Aviva Canada's Charged for Change grant program to be placed at both the ATRC and Lakeview Park in the amount of \$125,000.00; and

Approve the additional budget of \$8,245.00 to be funded from the Facilities/Properties – New reserve for the shortfall, as presented at the April 9, 2024 Council meeting.

Background

As part of the growing trend towards electrification of vehicles and local investments in the EV sector, many municipalities have been implementing EV charging stations throughout their communities. Administration has been actively exploring potential grant funding programs to support the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at municipally owned sites.

The 2024 Capital Budget included the submission item for EV Charging Stations – Pilot Project, in the amount of \$65,000.00. Through budget deliberations, this item was deferred by Council. At the time of budget approval, it was not determined whether any grant applications would be successful.

For purposes of information to support the submission of grant applications Administration, in collaboration with the local electrical distribution companies, have conducted an initial assessment of project feasibility at the following three (3) sites:

- 1) Atlas Tube Recreation Centre (ATRC);
- 2) Lakeview Park (parking lot on south side of Lakeview Drive); and
- 3) Town Hall.

ELK Energy conducted a site assessment at Town Hall and Lakeview Park and Hydro One provided a site assessment at ATRC. Based on these initial assessments, Town

Hall is the only site of the three that would require more significant electrical upgrades to accommodate EV infrastructure. Both ATRC and Lakeview Park are currently feasible to proceed with EV infrastructure installation.

Comments

Based on the above, the following two (2) grant applications were submitted to seek funding opportunities for EV infrastructure installation within the Municipality of Lakeshore:

(i) Application 1 - Ministry of Transportation (MTO) – Electric Vehicle ChargeON Program

This grant program has a funding amount of up to 75% of total project costs, to a maximum of \$7,500.00 per charging head(port). The program is site specific and thus three (3) separate applications were submitted for this program at each of the three (3) locations: ATRC, Lakeview Park, and Town Hall. Project requirements include a minimum of four (4) charging heads at each location.

The Municipality submitted three (3) applications with a total of 12 charging heads over three (3) different sites, four (4) charging heads per site. The sites included the ATRC, Town Hall, and Lakeview Park.

The total project cost for the application for all three sites was \$315,000.00.

The grant would only provide funding of \$20,000.00 per site for a total of \$60,000.00 of grant funding, therefore each site would require \$85,000.00 investment from the Municipality for a total of \$255,000.00.

The status of the MTO – Electric Vehicle ChargeON program application still remains pending, however based on the success of Application 2 (below) and because more significant funding may be required for this grant, Administration will be withdrawing the grant application.

(ii) Application 2 - Aviva Canada - Charged for Change EV Infrastructure Program

This grant program partners with Earth Day Canada as an initiative to accelerate the implementation of electric vehicle charging stations in communities across Canada.

The program has a funding amount of up to \$125,000.00 of total project costs and is a project specific application that includes multiple sites under one

application. Project requirements include a minimum of four (4) charging heads for the entire project and the display of Aviva branding on the charging stations.

The Municipality initially submitted one (1) application with total of six (6) charging heads over the three (3) different sites, two (2) charging heads per site. A revised scope was provided to Aviva to ensure project costs can be fully recovered from the maximum funding amount of \$125,000.00.

On March 25, 2024, the Municipality received notification of its successful application for the Aviva Canada Charged for Change grant, securing \$125,000.00 in funding.

Based on the successful outcome, and to keep the municipal costs down, the scope of the project was revised to include only four (4) charging heads over two (2) locations, two (2) charging heads per site. These locations will be the ATRC and Lakeview Park.

Aviva advised that they would like to announce successful candidates on April 16, 2024.

Others Consulted

Aviva Canada Inc., Hydro One Networks Inc., ELK Energy Inc., and Essex Energy Corp. were consulted as part of this report.

Financial Impacts

Based on the successful outcome of the grant funding, Administration recommends proceeding with the installation of EV charging stations at only two (2) sites at this time to maximize support from anticipated grant funding and effectively manage project costs

Therefore, it is proposed that both the ATRC and Lakeview Park sites be prioritized for EV implementation due to their anticipated project budget costs and suitable existing electrical infrastructure.

The grant funding amount provided in the table below is based on the secured Aviva grant of \$125,000.00, which is expected to sufficiently cover the majority of the project costs for installation of the EV charging stations at two (2) locations. The table summarizes anticipated project budget costs and grant coverage:

Item	Anticipated Cost	Grant Funding	2024 Operating Budget costs	Surplus/ (Shortfall)
Supply and install four (4) EV Charging heads at two (2) locations (2 charging heads per site). Includes applicable electrical infrastructure upgrades, permits and electrician fees.	\$ 120,450.00	\$125,000.00	-	\$4,550.00
Project Manager Salary	\$ 7,500.00	-	\$7,500.00	-
Project Contingency (10%)	\$ 12,795.00	-	-	(\$12,795.00)
Total Project Costs/Funding	\$ 140,745.00	\$125,000.00	\$7,500.00	
Total Deficit				(\$8,245.00)

The project amount of \$140,745.00 includes a Project Manager salary that was to be included as part of the grant funding application for covering the salaries of internal staff for tasks such as preparing and awarding RFPs and project administration. This amount is already funded as part of the operating budget for salaries and wages.

Administration recommends funding the identified shortfall in the amount of \$8,245.00 from the Facilities/Property - New reserve.

Administration is also exploring options for potential user fees of EV charging stations to recover any operating costs. In discussion with other local municipalities, some have introduced an hourly user fee and others have temporarily waived any user fee as a pilot project until full understanding of usage and operating costs is evaluated.

A report will be brought back to Council prior to implementation of the charging stations with a recommendation from Administration on how and if to implement user fees for these stations.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station Grant Funding Approval.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 9, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Prepared by Marco Vilella

Submitted by Krystal Kalbol

Approved by Justin Rousseau and Truper McBride