



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: Regional Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement

File #: 5210.00

Doc #:

From: Rick Bomhof, P.Eng.  
Director of Engineering, Parks & Environment

Date: January 16, 2023

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## RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer and Corporate Officer are authorized to sign the new Regional Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement.

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## PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is request authorization for the Chief Administrative Officer to sign the new Regional Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement.

## POLICY:

N/A

## COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

The new regional public works mutual aid agreement (attached) replaces the previous version which has been in place since the year 2000.

A major emergency or other serious incident affecting one or more local authorities is more and more likely to affect the Metro Vancouver region given the impact of climate change and the seismic risk. The new agreement adds several jurisdictions within Metro Vancouver, previously excluded, and provides improved language to clarify terms and conditions for sharing resources.

The mutual aid agreement is to facilitate mutual aid support, aid and assistance to be provided by members to ensure the public works are maintained in the event of an emergency. Resources are intended to be available in the event of an emergency

where a local jurisdiction does not have the resources available to effectively respond to the issues at hand. For clarity, the extent of the assistance given will be at the discretion of the jurisdiction being requested for mutual aid given that each jurisdiction will likely be dealing with similar issues in their own jurisdiction and will need to assess availability and capacity to assist. The mutual aid agreement sets out the procedure for making requests and responsibilities of each party in the event aid is provided.

The jurisdiction being requested for mutual aid will be reimbursed for any actual costs (i.e., salaries, supplies and materials, equipment, and facilities) incurred providing any resources requested, plus a sum equal to 10% of those costs and expenses on account of overhead costs.

The jurisdiction requesting mutual aid will compensate the jurisdiction being requested for mutual aid for Worker's Compensation death or disability benefits or any other form of compensation, and all legal fees and disbursements incurred by the jurisdiction being requested for mutual aid to defend any demands, claims, suits or actions arising from, related to or caused by any death or injury to an employee or volunteer.

This agreement may only be amended upon the written consent of all signing parties and may be reviewed by the parties every five years to ensure that it remains up to date and relevant for all parties.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

None

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Do not participate in the Regional Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement

Respectfully Submitted,



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Rick Bomhof, P.Eng.  
Director of Engineering, Parks & Environment

Attachment: Regional Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:**

I support the recommendation.



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Francis Cheung, P. Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer