



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: September 13, 2021

Title: DRA-NOHFC Funding Application

Prepared By: Tyler Peacock

Department: Community Development

Report Number: Economic Development-2021-01

Recommendation:

THAT Council approve by resolution the City of Dryden's application to NOHFC for Dryden Regional Airport Critical Infrastructure Upgrades & Enhancements totaling \$482,500 (\$361,875 NOHFC + \$120,625 City).

Background:

The City of Dryden has submitted an application to NOHFC's Community Enhancement Program – Rural Enhancement Stream – Communities between 1,500 and 30,000 population. As part of the application process, a resolution from Council is required, approving the funds required and covering any cost over runs.

Discussion:

The project builds on and emphasizes the capacity and efficiency of existing infrastructure through improving the flow of traffic both inside and outside the terminal.

The enhancements inside the terminal building improve user and tenant safety, allowing for safe social distancing and access to and from the boarding / baggage areas. These improvements make it possible for existing and future tenants of DRA to efficiently conduct their business with health and safety of everyone involved at the forefront.

Outside the terminal, parking and the flow of vehicular traffic are optimized to ensure safe access to the terminal through gated access to parking areas and improved lighting. These enhancements ensure emergency vehicles have unfettered access to the terminal and airside entry/egress points surrounding the terminal building.

Lastly, this project optimizes the efficiency of the maintenance facilities responsible for the storage of critical airport vehicles and equipment responsible for ensuring safe use of the runway and airside grounds. This is accomplished through enhancements to the HVAC system that supports this facility, ensuring employees and the equipment they use are not subject to the elements and extreme weather events that take place in Northwestern Ontario. Additionally, the replacement of the facility's roof will extend the useful life of this facility, allowing the DRA Management and Staff to continue to safely operate the runway and supporting airside grounds long-term.

Financial Implications:

Total Project Cost: \$482,500

NOHFC Contribution: \$361,875

City of Dryden Contribution: \$120,625

The City of Dryden's contribution has been accounted for within the 2021 Council Approved Budget.