

## Report to Council

<b>Report Title:</b>	FedDev Ontario Grant Application		
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer		
<b>Department:</b>	Administration		
<b>Date:</b>	December 8, 2020		
<b>Report Number:</b>	CAO2020-20	<b>File Number:</b>	C11AD, F11
<b>Attachments:</b>	N/A		

### Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CAO2020-20 – FedDev Ontario Grant Application, prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer, for information purposes and in doing so approves the grant submission of \$5 million for the Phase 2 Development of the East Ridge Business Park.

### Report:

#### Background:

The FedDev Ontario Grant is available to municipal governments, organizations and not-for-profit organizations with a total grants and contributions budget of roughly \$175 million dollars to be awarded over the next three years. Applications can be received through one of three program streams: Business Scale-up and Productivity, Regional Innovation Ecosystem and Community Economic Development and Diversification.

The Agency is dedicating a minimum of \$100 million over the next three years to spur more rural applications and investment. It creates a focus on innovation in rural southern Ontario, and aims to support those communities facing economic, social and/or demographic challenges to unlock opportunities that nurture business.

#### Analysis:

Staff are currently working on an application for the FedDev grant for the East Ridge Business Park Phase 2 Expansion through the Community Economic Development and Diversification program stream.

This stream is used to:

- Promote small business development and attraction,
- Create and maintain skilled jobs in smaller markets,
- Develop and expand collaborative efforts that strengthen regional competitiveness,

- Foster inclusive growth, and
- Supports businesses and not-for-profit organizations that are working to develop, diversify and transform local economies.

This grant could provide the municipality with contributions typically ranging from \$250,000 to \$5 million, applicants are normally eligible to receive up to 50% of the eligible project costs. On an exceptional basis, FedDev Ontario may consider funding amounts outside of these ranges. As the business park expansion in total is estimated to cost \$5 million dollars, if successful this will drastically reduce the financial impact on the Municipality related to borrowing funds. We intend to apply for the full amount of the expansion and we will continue to look for additional funding opportunities. We are one of the only municipalities in the County with a significant amount of Industrial lands available which creates a unique opportunity for Brockton that we need to capitalize on now. Projects will need to be completed by the end of 2023 for this program.

### **Sustainability Checklist:**

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| • Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy?       | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity?     | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity?           | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity?                 | Yes |

### **Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:**

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

This application form is not extensive and in the interest of saving the fees charged by Grant Match the Municipal Executive Coordinator, CAO and CFO will be preparing the grant application due to the significant ask.

If the Municipality borrowed 2.5 million for the remainder of the project through Infrastructure Ontario at 3% interest the yearly payment is \$126,967.14 over a 30 year period.

### **Reviewed By:**



**Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer**

---

**Respectfully Submitted by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonya Watson", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

**Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer**