

Date: April 11, 2025

To: **Mayor and Council**

Name and title: KRIS DALIO, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND IT SERVICES

Subject: NEXT GEN 9-1-1 MOBILE COMPUTER-AIDED DISPATCH (CAD) GRANT

Attachment(s): None

## Recommendation(s):

THAT Council:

1. SUPPORTS the City submitting a grant application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Next Generation 9-1-1 Funding in the amount of \$100,000 to support the updating of Mobile Computer-Aided Dispatch on fire response vehicles; AD
2. AUTHORIZES the City's Director of Finance and IT Services and Director of Administrative Services to sign the grant application and subsequent contract documents should grant approval be received;

all as outlined in the report dated April 11, 2025 from the Director of Finance and IT Services titled "Next Gen 9-1-1 Mobile CAD grant."

## Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek a City Council resolution in support of a UBCM Next Generation 911 (NG911) grant.

## Background:

The City intends to update and modernize Mobile CAD (Computer-Aided Dispatch) on its fleet of fire response vehicles. The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George has selected Hexagon as a new NG911 CAD provider. This update and modernization will allow us to improve security compliance with Next Gen 911 principles and prepare for access to the Hexagon system from fire response vehicles in the future.

NG911 refers to the modernization of 911 networks and infrastructure across Canada. NG911 is an IP-based system comprised of hardware, software, data, and operational policies and procedures that:

- Provides standardized interfaces from emergency call and message services to support emergency communications.

- Processes all types of emergency calls, including voice, data, and multimedia information.
- Acquires and integrates additional emergency call data useful to call routing and handling.
- Delivers the emergency calls, messages, and data to the appropriate public safety answering point and other appropriate emergency entities; and
- Supports data or video communications needs for coordinated incident response and management

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has directed that all telecommunications providers migrate to NG911 services to provide improved emergency services using world-class telecommunications networks. This federal mandate involves transition of the emergency communications network from the current network to an Internet Protocol based technology. NG911 will enable important improvements to public safety, including better 911 caller location information, real time texting, streaming audio and video, and new ways to direct calls to services other than police, fire, and ambulance, such as mental health support.

The intent of the Next Generation 911 funding program is to support local preparedness for the implementation of NG911 and to provide funding to eligible applicants to support the transition and operational readiness of existing 911 services to NG911, in compliance with the CRTC Mandate. The funding is being administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) on behalf of the Ministry of Citizens' Services. In March of 2025, the eligibility of the program was updated to include Mobile CAD and now the City is pursuing this new stream of funding and requesting \$100,000 which is the maximum amount allowed for our classification under the grant. The initial plan for this work was to approach it in phases over multiple years with most of the funding coming from the IT capital program. This new stream of funds would accelerate the project to a shorter time frame but would use less City funding over the life of the project. The project will outfit 10 fire response vehicles with the necessary equipment, including tablets. Should the City be successful, Administration will bring another report to Council to recognize the grant revenue and the accelerated time frame.

#### Summary and conclusion:

All regional applications, or applications requesting more than \$50,000 in funding, will require resolutions to be submitted. Successful applicants will have two years from the date of grant approval to complete the project. Administration is seeking Council's support to pursue the grant funding.

#### Respectfully submitted:

Kris Dalio, Director of Finance and IT Services

#### Approved:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting date: [2025/04/23]