

Bylaw 6407

Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 6296 the Clean Energy Improvement Tax Bylaw

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Date: September 19, 2023

Executive Summary

- Decision/Direction Requested That Council approve Bylaw 6407, amending Bylaw 6296 – Clean Energy Improvement Tax
- Summary of key points in presentation
 - The Clean Energy Improvement Program is full for 2023 plus has a waitlist that would fill 2024 as well.
 - Bylaw 6296 restricts funding to \$800,000 in 2023, \$900,000 in 2024, \$1,000,000 in 2025 and \$1,100,000 in 2026; for a total of \$3,800,000 over the four years.
 - The Federation of Canadian Municipalities are flexible on loan terms for the program and could facilitate early payments.
 - Bylaw 6407 would eliminate the yearly restriction while keeping the overall funding the same. This would allow the program to move forward more quickly than originally estimated and would allow more citizens to be served in a timely manner.

Background

- On August 24, 2021, Council approved Bylaw 6296 the Clean Energy Improvement Tax Bylaw.
- In the fall of 2021 Lethbridge submitted preliminary application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for funding.
- Once approved a second, and final application package was completed and sent in February 2022 for final approval.
- On June 23, 2022, FCM Council met regarding our application and on July 11, 2022, the City was notified of the successful application.
- On October 3, 2022, a public funding announcement was made through the FCM.
- On February 28 , 2023, the Clean Energy Improvement Program went live to the public and applications reached capacity on March 6 . There were 40 applications accepted and another 47 homeowners are now on the waitlist.

Options

- Option 1: That Council approve Bylaw 6407, amending Bylaw 6296 – Clean Energy Improvement Tax
- Option 2: That Council deny Bylaw 6407, amending Bylaw 6296 – Clean Energy Improvement Tax

Administration Recommendation

- Option 1: That Council approve Bylaw 6407, amending Bylaw 6296 – Clean Energy Improvement Tax
- The current waitlist for CEIP is over 1 year.
- Approval of Bylaw 6407 would allow more homeowners to access funding earlier.
- There is no change to the overall funding for the program.