

**CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT
Regional Planning Services Department**

Staff Report to the Regional Planning Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, January 19, 2005

SUBJECT:

Regional Housing Trust Fund – Update on Municipal Review

BACKGROUND:

- June 16/04: RPC directs staff to prepare a model Regional Housing Trust Fund (RHTF) bylaw and covering business case letter to member municipalities, based on the results of the committee's discussions, including a description of the pros/cons of using the Housing Corporation's existing supplementary letters patent (SLP), or a new service establishment bylaw.
- August 11/04: The Board directs staff to refer the RHTF business case and draft establishment bylaw, and the existing supplementary letters patent (SLP) to the regional solicitor for review and comment on any necessary amendment prior to broader circulation.
- November 5/04: Letter from regional solicitor Lorena Staples and revised service establishing bylaw received.
- November 17/04: RPC directed staff to circulate the draft RHTF business case and service establishing bylaw to member councils with a request to indicate their interest in establishing the RHTF, willingness to proceed on the basis of the draft bylaw, with a further request to meet a goal of adopting the RHTF bylaw at the March 23, 2005 meeting of the CRD Board. RPC directed staff to make presentations to councils in January, 2005.

DISCUSSION:

The draft RHTF service establishing bylaw and business case report was revised as directed by RPC at the November 17th meeting, and circulated to member councils under cover of a letter from Chair Don Amos, dated December 13, 2004 (Attachment A). Councils have been asked to give consideration and respond by resolution to three questions:

1. Are you prepared to support the participation of your municipality or electoral area in the RHTF?
2. If yes, are you prepared to approve the inclusion of your municipality or electoral

- area among the participating areas in the RHTF establishing bylaw?
3. If no, what issues or concerns would need to be resolved before you would be prepared to participate in a RHTF?

The RHTF business case, the Chair's letter and a set of frequently asked questions (FAQ) have also been posted to the CRD's website, and can be found at:

<http://www.crd.bc.ca/regplan/rgs/reports/strategic/index.htm>

The schedule of council presentations, all at 7:00 PM unless otherwise noted below, has been confirmed as follows:

Meeting Date	Municipality	Presenter
Monday, January 10	Oak Bay Central Saanich Sooke	– Mark Hornell – Isobel Mackenzie, CRHC Board – Henry Kamphof
Thursday, January 13	Victoria (9:00 AM)	– Mark Hornell
Monday, January 17	Langford Highlands Sidney	– Henry Kamphof – Mark Hornell – Rob Fleming
Monday, January 24	Metchosin (6:30 PM) Esquimalt North Saanich Colwood Saanich	– Mark Hornell – Rob Fleming – Isobel Mackenzie – David Ganong, CRHC Board – Henry Kamphof
Presentation declined	View Royal	N/A

The Community Council and the Housing Affordability Partnership are organizing presentations to councils as well, to speak in support of the RHTF proposal.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Regional Planning Committee receive this report for information.

RGS CONSISTENCY:

Regional Housing Affordability Strategy and the RHTF proposal, is an implementation initiative of the RGS and responds to its direction in initiative 3.2.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

Mark Hornell, MCIP
Director of Regional Planning Services

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

W.M. Jordan, Executive Director