



# Report

## **TITLE: RECREATION FUNDING – ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL \$100,000.**

**Meeting: Council Meeting**

**Meeting Date: February 12, 2025**

### **Background**

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Flagstaff County Council supports and values recreation facilities and programs in the region. Council is cognizant of the financial demands of these facilities and is supportive of the organizations that operate them.

An additional \$100,000 in funding for recreation facilities was approved in the 2025 Business Plan and Budget. The allocation of this additional funding has not yet been determined and could take various approaches. Two options have been provided for Council's consideration:

#### **Option #1**

##### **Recreation Facility Operation Expenses Grant for 2025 Only**

Provide further funding to regional recreational facilities that have experienced significant increases in operational costs over the past 3 years. Recreation facilities may have experienced rate increases in utilities and insurance expenses or unforeseen repair and maintenance costs. The intention of this grant is to provide financial assistance to facilities that can demonstrate a financial need.

The specific grant amount awarded will be determined after reviewing the required documents and application form. This is a one-time grant intended to address past expenditures. The total grant is \$100,000.

##### **Grant Application Requirements:**

- Owner/Operator of a facility that has not-for-profit status
- Provide 3 years (2022, 2023, 2024) of the following information:
  - programming history;
  - number of registrants and users;
  - number of days open and operational;
  - financial statements
- Detailed explanation of the expenses that the organization is applying for and the year-over-year increase in costs.
- Provide details of unforeseen expenses if appropriate.

The application deadline would be May 31, 2025, and will be reviewed by administration. All requests will be considered by Council for a final decision.

## **Option 2**

### **Additional Recreation Funding of \$100,000 to the Agricultural Societies for 2025 Only**

Flagstaff County Council supports and values recreation facilities and the organizations that own/operate these facilities and recognizes that increased operating costs are making it more challenging for these organizations to provide and maintain recreation programming and facilities. In response to these challenges, Flagstaff County will add an additional \$100,000 to the recreation funding formula to be distributed to the regional Agricultural Societies.

### **Alignment with the Strategic Plan**

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**STRONG COMMUNITIES:** To provide community services that make Flagstaff County an attractive place to live for all generations.

### **Alternatives/Options**

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1. THAT Council approve Option 1, to allocate the 2025 additional recreation funding of \$100,000 approved in the 2025 Business Plan and Budget through a Recreation Facility Operation Expenses Grant, as outlined.
2. THAT Council approve Option 2, to add the 2025 additional recreation funding of \$100,000 approved in the 2025 Business Plan and Budget to the recreation funding formula to be distributed to the regional Agricultural Societies.
3. THAT Council provide administration with further clarification for the allocation of the 2025 additional recreation funding of \$100,000 approved in the 2025 Business Plan and Budget.

### **Recommendation**

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THAT Council approve Option 1, to allocate the 2025 additional recreation funding of \$100,000 approved in the 2025 Business Plan and Budget through a Recreation Facility Operation Expenses Grant, as outlined.