



## **RECREATION, PARKS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

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<b>TO:</b>	Council	
<b>DATE:</b>	January 25, 2022	<b>DIVISION:</b> All
<b>FILE:</b>	N/A	<b>APPLICATION:</b> N/A
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Rocky View Regional Handibus Society Letter of Support for Rural Transit Solutions Fund	

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Rocky View Regional Handibus Society (RVRHS) is requesting a letter of support to be able to submit an application to the Rural Transit Solutions Fund (RTSF). RVRHS has fundraised \$100,000 for the replacement of one bus in early 2022; however, participation in the RTSF program will allow the society to expand their program by four additional buses, resulting in five new buses for 2022.

### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:**

Administration recommends approval in accordance with Option #1.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Within Rocky View County, Specialized Transportation is predominately provided by the Rocky View Regional Handibus Society (RVRHS). The Society, operating as the "Rocky View Bus" program, is available to County residents facing transportation barriers in accessing community supports and services. The service strives to maintain the residents' independence and limit potential isolation, allowing the individuals to remain in their own homes and communities. Based on current funding levels and working on a pre-booked, ride-sharing model, up to 20 one-way trips can be booked per month.

RVRHS desires to submit an application to the Rural Transit Solutions Fund (RTSF). This Federal government program will contribute up to 80% of the costs toward rural transit-focused capital projects such as the procurement of buses / mini vans. RVRHS has fundraised \$100,000 to replace one bus in early 2022; however, participation in the RTSF program would expand their program by four additional buses, resulting in five new buses for 2022.

The RTSF program is open to municipalities and other levels of government. Non-profit organizations such as Rocky View Regional Handibus Society can participate in this program by submitting an application on behalf of an eligible municipality. If a municipality allows a non-profit to make a submission on their behalf, then the non-profit assumes responsibility for all aspects of the grant (submission, procurement, reporting, etc). As with all letters of support for our community organizations, Rocky View County includes language that does not commit the Municipality for future funding.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no budget implications associated with request.

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### **Administration Resources**

Dimitri Dimopoulos, Recreation, Parks and Community Support



**OPTIONS:**

- Option #1                      THAT Administration be authorized to provide a letter of support for the Rocky View Regional Handibus Society's application to Rural Transit Solutions Fund, as per Attachment 'A'.
- Option #2                      THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

"Brock Beach"

"Byron Riemann"

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Acting Executive Director  
Community Development Services

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Acting Chief Administrative Officer

AS/rp

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 'A' – Draft Letter of Support – Rocky View Regional Handibus