


<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	
	<b>TOPIC:</b> Priddis Community Association – Request for Support
<b>REPORT PREPARED BY:</b> Krista Conrad	
<b>REPORT PRESENTED BY:</b> Councillor Oel	

**PURPOSE OF REQUEST**

To consider a request from Priddis Community Association for Foothills County to provide financial support for costs incurred due to increased cyclist traffic in Priddis.

**BACKGROUND**

A letter was received from the Priddis Community Association outlining concerns with the increasing number of cyclists parking in the paved parking lot at the Priddis Community Hall, as well as along 186 Ave W, in the gravel lot next to the old school house, and in Pioneer Park at the tennis court parking area. To discourage parking at the community hall so renters were not affected by vehicle congestion, a chain gate was installed in the parking lot at the expense of the community association, which requires parking lot management.

Additionally, the Priddis Community Association detailed costs incurred when cyclists use the portable toilets on its property and is requesting financial assistance to alleviate the costs of providing portable toilets as well as additional costs incurred in 2024, outlined in its letter, due to parking concerns.

On August 30, 2023, Council made the following motion:

“That Council acknowledge the request from the Priddis Community Association and authorize financial support for the maintenance of two porta potty's from May to October 2023 for the total amount of \$2,160.00 plus applicable taxes. Further, that future requests for porta potty maintenance support be directed to the Priddis Red Deer Lake Recreation Board for consideration.”

**REQUEST OF COUNCIL**

*Proposed Motion:*

That Council acknowledge the request from the Priddis Community Association and authorize financial support for the maintenance of two portable toilets from May to October 2024, for a total amount of \$2,160 plus applicable taxes.

**APPENDICES**

Appendix A: Priddis Community Association Letter of Request



August 30, 2024

Dear Foothills County Council,

This summer we have continued to see an increasing number of cyclists flock to our hamlet. With the influx of people from outside the area comes challenges, and increased costs, for our non profit community association. The major challenges we have faced this summer are the increased demands on our time and the increased costs associated with having this many people congregating in our already limited space. The sheer number of cyclists in the hamlet is also leading to conflicts between the cyclists and locals, business owners and hall renters all vying for what limited parking is available in the hamlet.

When cyclists come to the hamlet their preferred parking is in our paved community hall parking lot. The other areas that cyclists park are along 186 avenue W, in the gravel lot beside the old school house, in Pioneer Park and in the tennis court parking area.

Having this many cars from outside the area poses a logistical challenge for us. Our community hall is booked every weekend in the summer and is also quite busy during the week. Hall rentals are the main source of income that the PCA uses to upkeep our facilities. These renters require the parking lot and, sadly, often arrive for their event to find the lot full of cars left there for hours by the cyclists. This reflects poorly on our hall rental operations. In order to try and mitigate this problem for our community members and renters, we installed signs letting people know that the parking was for facility users or events only. Unfortunately, many cyclists just disregard the signs and still park in the lot while they take their bikes out on the county roads for hours at a time. As a result of this we had no choice but to install a chain gate at the entrance to our lot. Doing so was not only an expense for materials and labor, but it also costs us money to pay someone to close and open it for each rental and make sure parking spaces are available when renters arrive.

In addition to the parking crunch, when the cyclists begin and end their ride they are looking for restrooms and waste receptacles. The local businesses do not allow non paying customers to use their washrooms, so we feel that we have no choice but to provide washrooms and garbage containers in order to keep our property tidy. Even when the cyclists are not parking in our lot they come over to use the porta potties. The high use means that we have to pay to have the 2 units serviced bi-weekly from May-October. Cyclists also leave behind garbage which we have to pay to have collected. Below is a list of costs incurred by our non

profit community association this year as a direct result of the cyclists who descend upon our community.

2024 Costs:

- Porta Potty Maintenance \$360/month
- Parking lot signs \$350
- Gate purchase and installation \$302.58
- Managing Parking Lot (averages 16 hours per month) \$480
- Security Camera \$273
- Security Monitoring Fee \$63/year

These increased costs are significant for our non profit community association, especially since the majority of the cyclists parking on our property and using our facilities live outside of our community and don't hold community memberships. We are hopeful that Foothills County will be willing to assist us with the Porta potty maintenance fees again this year and that you will also consider supporting us with some of the other costs listed above. Thank you in advance for your consideration and continued support.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Flynn  
Priddis Community Association Executive Director