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## 2006 City Planning Budget Briefing Note

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- Issue:**
- To report to Budget Advisory Committee on the details of a proposed increase to the 2006 City Planning Capital Budget as it relates to a new Transit Environmental Assessment study for Kingston Rd. transit improvements, and to report on the financial impact.
- Background:**
- The Official Plan's surface transit priority and higher order transit corridors will require Environmental Assessment studies to be completed prior to implementing improvements to transit services/operations.
  - A joint study, Building a Transit City, prepared by City Planning, Transportation Planning and TTC identifies priority corridors for these studies.
  - Environmental Assessment studies are conducted by the TTC, City Planning and Transportation Services with the lead role being decided based on the primary function and source of the planned service.
  - TTC is conducting several of these priority studies, Waterfront Transit, Bremner Blvd., and Scarborough RT.
  - City Planning has \$250,000 in its proposed 2006 Proposed Capital Budget to do Environmental Assessment (EA) studies. Of this amount, \$84,000 would be debt-funded, as these studies are eligible for Development Charges funding. The funds for 2005 and 2006 will be spent on conducting the Council directed Don Mills Road Transit EA. The procurement process is underway to secure consultant assistance for this study. It is estimated that this study will be completed by mid-2007.
  - Transportation Planning staff has assessed work priorities and believes that an additional project, Kingston Road Transit Improvements EA should be undertaken and can be completed within the same time-frame.
  - The Kingston Road Revitalization Study (Victoria Park to Birchmount) is just commencing and the first public meetings are being planned. Also, Transportation Services Division plans to rebuild this section of Kingston Road and that this major re-construction has been delayed to date but is overdue and included in the 2006 proposed Transportation Services Capital Budget. There is some urgency to assess the transit needs for this section of Kingston Road and beyond in order to ensure that these needs are incorporated into the road reconstruction plans.

- In order to complete the Kingston Road study in the 2006-2007 time period, an additional \$250,000 would need to be added to the City Planning 2006 Proposed Capital Budget, of which \$166,000 would be eligible for Development Charge funding, and a commitment of \$250,000 in 2007 to complete the study.
- The balance of the required funding, \$84,000 in 2006 and \$84,000 in 2007, is available in the Engineering Studies account of the Transportation Services Capital Budget. Transportation Services has confirmed the availability of funds and has committed the required amounts to this project.

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