

Clause embodied in Report No. 15 of the Policy and Finance Committee, as adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto at its regular meeting held on November 26, 27 and 28, 2002.

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**Development of a Child Care Centre
at 118 Enderby Road
(Ward 32 - Beaches East York)**

(City Council at its regular meeting held on November 26, 27 and 28, 2002, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Policy and Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the Recommendation of the Administration Committee and the Community Services Committee embodied in the communications (November 5 and 7, 2002) from the City Clerk.

The Policy and Finance Committee submits the following communication (November 5, 2002) from the City Clerk:

Recommendation:

The Administration Committee on November 5, 2002, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee and Council, the adoption of the report (October 24, 2002) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting the Development of a Child Care Centre at 118 Enderby Road, Ward 32, Beaches – East York.

The Policy and Finance Committee also submits the following communication (November 7, 2002) from the City Clerk:

Recommendation:

The Community Services Committee on November 7, 2002, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee, and Council, the adoption of the report (October 24, 2002) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting the development of a child care centre at 118 Enderby Road, Ward 32, Beaches-East York.

(Report dated October 24, 2002, addressed to the
Administration Committee from the Commissioner of
Community and Neighbourhood Services

Purpose:

This report seeks approval to proceed on the renovation of an existing industrial building and build an addition onto the same building in order to convert the site into a child care centre. The industrial building and site have been deemed surplus by the City of Toronto.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

The projected capital cost of \$1.6 million will be covered by a contribution from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund. This project will have no impact on the net operating or capital budget.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer have reviewed this report and concur with the financial impact statement.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) approval be given to proceed with the design and construction of a child care centre at 118 Enderby Road;
- (2) the development of the centre be funded through a contribution from the Child Care Reserve Fund in the amount of \$1.6 million at no net cost to the City of Toronto;
- (3) an appropriate capital account be set up and the required amount be transferred accordingly;
- (4) Children's Services Division be given authority to enter into a contract for operation of the child care centre with a qualified non-profit child care operator selected through an open public process to be completed prior to the completion of the project;
- (5) this report be forwarded to the Policy and Finance Committee; and
- (6) the appropriate City officials take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

Children's Services is interested in renovating and augmenting an existing building which was declared surplus by the City of Toronto to develop a child care centre serving 62 children. The building is located at 118 Enderby Road, at the north-east corner of Ward 32. This area has been identified in the City's Child Care Service Plan as being under-served. As a result of an architectural feasibility study, cost analysis and an Environmental Phase 1 site analysis, it has been determined that this project constitutes an effective and efficient way of improving access to licensed child care.

Although no provision has been made in the 2002 Capital Budget for this project, the \$1.6 million cost of renovation and building the necessary addition can be covered by a contribution from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund without any impact on the property tax. The renovation and addition will provide the licensed capacity to serve up to 62 children. Thirty spaces will be designed for infants and toddlers. There is the highest service demand for these two age groups in most areas of Toronto and the construction of infant space is a priority noted in the Service Plan. The commencement of operation of this child care is anticipated to be during the latter half of 2004.

Comments:

The newly released "Toronto Report Card on Children" for 2002 states that there are over 15,000 children on the waiting list for subsidized child care. The City of Toronto Child Care Service Plan (2001) states that the access to existing subsidies is not equitable because of lack of adequate licensed facilities in the "under-served" wards. Children's Services has a limited amount of capital funding available through the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund with which to address the existing inequities and attempts to maximize its potential through partnerships and use of corporate assets such as surplus properties. The proposed use of the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund for this development is consistent with the criteria adopted by Council in July 2000 and further elaborated in the Child Care Service Plan adopted in June 2001.

Children's Services proposes to seek out, through a competitive process, a non-profit community based agency to operate the new centre on City's behalf; the ownership of the property will remain with the City of Toronto. Based on the need in the area, it is anticipated that most children will require a subsidy to attend the centre. However, there will be no additional financial impact, as the required subsidies can be re-allocated from wards currently receiving more than their equitable share. There is a sufficient turnover of clients every year to achieve this without affecting any existing client with a child care subsidy.

Conclusion:

The approval of this report will represent one of the many steps required to achieve an improved equitable access to licensed child care spaces across the City of Toronto. In this particular case, 118 Enderby Road has proven to be a viable site to allow for 62 new child care spaces in a very needy area of Ward 32. The proposal is consistent with the Child Car Service Plan and the intent of the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund.

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