

Consolidated Clause in Policy and Finance Committee Report 7, which was considered by City Council on September 28, 29, 30 and October 1, 2004.

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**Child Care Capital Reserve Fund Approval for Plains Road and
Child's Space II Child Care Centres
(Ward 31 - Beaches-East York and
Ward 30 - Toronto-Danforth)**

City Council on September 28, 29, 30 and October 1, 2004, adopted this Clause without amendment.

The Policy and Finance Committee recommends that City Council adopt the recommendation of the Community Services Committee in the communication (September 9, 2004) from the Committee:

Recommendation:

The Community Services Committee recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (August 17, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

Background:

The Community Services Committee on September 9, 2004, considered a report (August 17, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing information on the increased construction costs for Plains Road and Child's Space II Child Care Centres; and seeking approval for the funding from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund and authority to enter into a contribution agreement with the Toronto Catholic District School Board for the construction of these projects.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) authority be granted to enter into an agreement with the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) for the purposes of funding the construction of child care space at Canadian Martyrs and St. Patrick's Catholic Schools;
- (2) authority be granted to increase funding for Plains Road Child Care at Canadian Martyrs Catholic School from \$750,000.00 to \$984,100.00, and to increase funding for Child's Space II Child Care at St. Patrick's Catholic School from \$500,000.00 to \$618,000.00;

- (3) authority be granted to adjust the Children's Services 2004 operating budget by adding \$1,250,000.00 (gross and revenue) approved in 2003 and the additional gross and revenue adjustment of \$352,100.00; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

(Report dated August 17, 2004, addressed to the
Community Services Committee from the
Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services)

Purpose:

This report provides information on the increased construction costs for Plains Road and Child's Space II Child Care Centres, seeks approval for the funding from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund and authority to enter into a contribution agreement with the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) for the construction of these projects.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

This report proposes the allocation of an additional amount of \$352,100.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund to support the expansion of Plains Road Child Care and the relocation and expansion of Child's Space II Child Care. This additional approval will bring the Council approved funding for these projects from \$1,250,000.00 to \$1,602,100.00. The Child Care Capital Reserve Fund has sufficient resources to support the recommendations contained within this report.

Approval of this report will result in an increase of \$352,100.00 in the Children's Services 2004 gross budget with a matching amount in the revenue budget, but will not affect the net operating budget.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial impact statement.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) authority be granted to enter into an agreement with the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) for the purposes of funding the construction of child care space at Canadian Martyrs and St. Patrick's Catholic Schools;
- (2) authority be granted to increase funding for Plains Road Child Care at Canadian Martyrs Catholic School from \$750,000.00 to \$984,100.00; and to increase funding for Child's Space II Child Care at St. Patrick's Catholic School from \$500,000.00 to \$618,000.00;

- (3) authority be granted to adjust the Children's Services 2004 operating budget by adding \$1,250,000.00 (gross and revenue) approved in 2003 and the additional gross and revenue adjustment of \$352,100.00; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

At its meeting of June 24, 25, and 26, 2003, Council approved \$750,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund to support the expansion of Plains Road Child Care, a program housed in Canadian Martyrs Catholic School. At its meeting of July 22, 23, and 24, 2003, Council approved \$500,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund to support the renovation costs associated with the expansion and relocation of Child's Space II Child Care Centre at St. Patrick's Catholic School.

The Child Care Capital Reserve Fund was first established by the former Metropolitan Toronto Council in 1997 and its criteria were amended in 1998 to assist non-profit child care centre in school facilities facing capital costs as a result of relocations due to increased school enrolment. Toronto Council later amended the Reserve's criteria at its meeting of June 26, 27, and 28, 2001, to support the growth of child care in accordance with the Child Care Service Plan. The Child Care Capital Reserve Fund is replenished by an annual contribution from the operating budget and by a transfer of any unspent operating funds. Subject to approval of the recommendations of this report, the uncommitted balance within the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund will be \$887,800.00.

Comments:

Plains Road Child Care is located in Canadian Martyrs Catholic School. As a result of increased school enrolment the child care program faced increased uncertainty concerning tenure. A planned renovation to the school provided an opportunity to secure permanent space and increase capacity. The Department had reported on preliminary cost estimates and Council approved an allocation of \$750,000.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve to preserve and expand the child care program. Following the tender process, the TCDSB indicated that the actual construction costs were significantly in excess of the approved allocation. City staff have worked with the TCDSB to revise the scope of work and the TCDSB has submitted a final project cost of \$984,100.00 for the construction of the child care centre.

In its June 18, 2003 report, the Department requested authority to negotiate with the TCDSB to develop an alternative child care site at St. Patrick's Catholic High School. Increased school enrolment had resulted in the TCDSB issuing notice to the Child's Space to vacate from St. Brigid's Catholic School. Because the TCDSB was unable to complete construction for September 2004, the child care centre has been temporarily housed in Corpus Christie Catholic School. Final architectural drawings and estimates indicate that the project cost will be \$618,000.00. The original estimate of \$500,000.00 was approved for this project by Council. The City will enter into an agreement with the TCDSB for the completion of the construction for these two projects.

Conclusions:

This report outlines the revised construction costs for Plains Road and Child's Space II Child Care Centres and recommends approval of an additional withdrawal of \$352,100.00 from the Child Care Capital Reserve Fund to support the revised costs. In addition the report seeks authority to enter into an agreement with the Toronto Catholic District School Board for the construction of the two projects.

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