

THE CITY OF TORONTO

Clerk's Department

Minutes of the Budget Committee

Friday, November 13, 1998.

The Budget Committee met on Friday, November 13, 1998, in Committee Room A, Metro Hall, 55 John Street, Toronto, commencing at 1:10 p.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Jakobek, Chair
Councillor Balkissoon
Councillor Chow
Councillor Kinahan
Councillor Ootes
Councillor Pitfield
Councillor Shiner

The following Members of Council were also in attendance:

Councillor Berardinetti;
Councillor Bossons;
Councillor Cho;
Councillor Layton;
Councillor Moeser; and
Councillor Pantalone

The Budget Committee recessed at 1:12 p.m., and reconvened at 1:25 p.m.

CAPITAL BUDGET REVIEW

313. Works and Emergency Services - Transportation

In considering this matter, the Budget Committee had before it the following:

- (a) report (November 6, 1998) from the Chief Administrative Officer presenting a 1999-2003 capital Works program and recommending for approval projects and cash flow for 1999. The report also summarizes the various issues and challenges currently faced by the program;

- (b) sub-program listing of projects for the 1999 capital Works program;
- (c) communication (October 26, 1998) from Councillor Lindsay Luby expressing the belief that it would be inadvisable to spend monies to rebuild the Dundas Street West Eastbound Bridge over Kipling Avenue at Six Points Interchange because major development is expected in the area;
- (d) transmittal letter (September 23, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding the recommendation of Etobicoke Community Council regarding Road Surface - Islington Avenue between Bloor Street West and the Queensway;
- (e) transmittal letter (September 9, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding the recommendation of the Urban Environment and Development Committee regarding Funding of Pedestrian Improvements; and
- (f) transmittal letter (September 18, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding to the Budget Committee for funding consideration the Installation of a Pedestrian Crossover - Coxwell Avenue between Robbins Avenue and Gerrard Street East (East Toronto).

The Budget Committee requested the Director of Transportation to report back to the Committee on:

1. what projects could be proceeded with in the event that Gardiner East demolition project was deferred;
2. what additional costs, if any, would result from a one year delay, such costs to also include savings by not debenturing;
3. the impact of deferring the Gardiner East project in the amount of \$10 million to the year 2000, such report to also include past and future projected spending;
4. a financial analysis of a comparison between the retention of the Gardiner versus its demolition;
5. a detailed breakdown of the \$1.5 million in Safety and Operational Improvements, particularly traffic calming;
6. the cost of bringing the roads in the former municipalities of East York, Etobicoke and York up to the same condition as those in the remaining former municipalities; such report to also identify what portion of the roads would have been local responsibility and what portion would have been Metro's responsibility;
7. the impact of deferring Project No. 810 - Construction of Pavement, Sidewalks, Railway;

8. what funds are required for the completion of requested crosswalks, traffic lights, crossings, etc., and anticipated funding requirements in the future; and
9. the impact of reducing the Bridge Rehabilitation and Expressway Rehabilitation Projects by \$2 or \$3 million each.

(Agenda Item No. 1)

314. Works and Emergency Services - Ambulance Department

In considering this matter, the Budget Committee had before it a report (November 3, 1998) from the Chief Administrative Officer presenting a 1999-2003 capital Works program for Ambulance and recommending for approval projects and cash flow for 1999. The report also summarizes the various issues and challenges currently faced by the program.

The Budget Committee requested the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services to report on the feasibility of another municipality purchasing the City's older ambulances and replacing them with gas powered vehicles.

(Agenda Item No. 2)

315. Works and Emergency Services - Fire Department

In considering this matter, the Budget Committee had before it the following:

- (a) report (November 5, 1998) from the Chief Administrative Officer presenting a 1999-2003 capital Works program for Fire Services and recommending for approval projects and cash flow for 1999. The report also summarizes the various issues and challenges currently faced by the program;
- (b) report (November 13, 1998) from the Fire Chief regarding Fire Services Headquarters and Training Academy, 1999 Capital Budget;
- (c) report (November 12, 1998) from the Fire Chief regarding Centralized Computer-Aided Call-Taking Dispatch System for the Fire Services;
- (d) report (November 11, 1998) from the Fire Chief regarding Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Fire Services; and
- (e) report (November 11, 1998) from the Fire Chief regarding Radio Communications System - Budget Submission.

The Budget Committee requested:

1. the Fire Chief to:
 - (a) provide a cost benefit analysis on the consolidation of Fire/Ambulance training facilities; and
 - (b) report back on fund raising and cost sharing arrangements with the City for the Harbourfront Museum; and
2. the Chief Administrative Officer to report on the utilization of space being vacated, what savings are achieved as a result of this and whether such savings could be applied to renovation projects.

(Agenda Item No. 3)

The Budget Committee recessed at 3:50 p.m., and reconvened at 4:05 p.m.

316. Works and Emergency Services - Toronto Parking Authority

In considering this matter, the Budget Committee had before it a report (November 12, 1998) from the Chief Administrative Officer presenting a 1999-2003 capital Works program for Fire Services and recommending for approval projects and cash flow for 1999. The report also summarizes the various issues and challenges currently faced by the program.

The Budget Committee requested that the President of the Toronto Parking Authority provide a list of all projects that were funded but not started in 1998.

(Agenda Item No. 5.)

317. Works and Emergency Services - Solid Waste Management

In considering this matter, the Budget Committee had before it a report (November 12, 1998) which revised the report (November 4, 1998) from the Chief Administrative Officer presenting a 1999-2003 capital Works program for Fire Services and recommending for approval projects and cash flow for 1999. The report also summarizes the various issues and challenges currently faced by the program.

The Budget Committee requested:

1. the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services to report back to the Budget Committee on::

- (a) a list of consultants and amounts budgeted relating to the capital budget;
 - (b) the capture of landfill gases from old landfill sites and the possibility of acquiring Federal funding;
 - (c) conducting an independent review of the Commissioners Street Transfer Station (Project No. 075) expenditures to date;
 - (d) alternative financing strategies to achieve higher recycling rates;
 - (e) the use of private sector alternatives to offset the costs involved with new recycling and waste processing facilities; and
 - (f) the savings to the City's landfill site capital spending because of recycling and composting initiatives. (This report to be submitted during the Operating Budget deliberations.); and
2. the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to:
- (a) provide the 1997 and 1998 figures for comparison purposes in the 1999-2003 Capital Works program chart; and
 - (b) explore the cost effectiveness of debenturing versus leasing options for the development of new recycling and waste processing facilities.

(Agenda Item No. 4)

Note: TEDCO and Toronto Harbour Commission Capital Budget Review was conducted on November 18, 1998 and December 8, 1998.

The Budget Committee adjourned its meeting at 5:20 p.m.