

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

A G E N D A

Date of Meeting: Thursday, October 14, 1999 **Enquiry:** Patsy Morris
Time: 9:30 a.m. **Committee Administrator**
Location: Committee Room 1 **392-9151**
2nd Floor, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST PURSUANT TO THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

DEPUTATION:

**Respecting Item No. 14
Toronto Hydro Rate Increases.**

10:30 A.M.

- Councillor Howard Moscoe, North York Spadina.

COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS.

1. FEASIBILITY OF PHASE II REVIEW OF FIRE SERVICES.

Chief Administrative Officer.
(September 30, 1999)

Recommending that:

- (1) a Phase II review of Fire Service's business processes, operations and practices not be considered until after the Fire Service has resolved three key issues, including the implementation of the KPMG Fire and Ambulance Facilities Study, the achievement of a single collective agreement for Fire Service staff and a remedial strategy for the current levels of absenteeism; and
- (2) the necessary City officials be authorized to give effect thereto.

2. COST ESTIMATE FOR A COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF INTERNAL VS. EXTERNAL LEGAL SERVICES.

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.
(September 24, 1999)

Providing information on the price for a management type study on a cost benefit analysis of internal vs. external legal services; and recommending that this report be received for information and that any further action to define the scope parameters of such a study be referred to the City Auditor in consultation with the City Solicitor.

3. FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A PARKING LEVY ON PRIVATE/PUBLIC PARKING TO SUPPORT PUBLIC TRANSIT AND APPLICATION OF REVENUES FROM PARKING.

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.
(September 30, 1999)

Examining the feasibility of implementing a parking levy on private and public parking in support of public transit in the City of Toronto; providing an overview of the application of revenues from the City's parking related programs/services and examining the feasibility of allocating a portion of existing or future revenues to support the TTC; stating that the City has no authority to pass a by-law under the Municipal Act to impose a \$1.00 levy on private parking in the City of Toronto on either the number of parking spaces or on a per vehicle parked basis; that the City could pass a by-law under section 220.1 to levy a \$1.00 fee on users of parking facilities operated by the Toronto Parking Authority on behalf of the City, however, such a fee could only be used for the purposes of the Toronto Parking Authority and not for the purpose of offsetting TTC costs; and that the implementation of a new parking levy on residential/non-residential properties would require special legislation; and recommending that this report be received for information.

4. STORM WATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES FUNDING OPTIONS.

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
Acting Commissioner of Urban Planning and Development Services
Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services.
(September 28, 1999)

Discussing the available funding options for off-site storm water management facilities arising from new growth; advising that apart from the plan of subdivision and severance (consent) approval processes, there are no specific contribution mechanisms available in legislation and which are generally applicable to the majority of development applications to address funding requirements for off-site storm water management facilities; that for other planning approval processes, negotiated agreements which are not explicitly authorized in legislation can be reached on a case-by-case basis, but cannot be required by a City policy, since such a policy would have no legislative basis; that development charges remain the best tool to consistently address the funding of off-site storm water management facilities; that in order to implement the relevant development charge, the necessary Wet Weather Flow

Management Master Plan and capital forecasts must first be completed and the amount of the charge calculated; that until such time as the Wet Weather Flow Master Plan is complete and the Development Charge By-law is amended, staff will continue to utilize all mechanisms legally available to address funding or provision of off-site storm water facilities in the development approval process; and recommending that this report be received for information.

5. REDEVELOPMENT OF CAR PARK 63 LOCATED AT 111 AND 117 RICHMOND STREET EAST.

City Clerk.

(October 5, 1999)

Advising that the Administration Committee on October 5, 1999, referred to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration, the report (September 28, 1999) from the President, Toronto Parking Authority, entitled "Redevelopment of Car Park 63 Located at 111 and 117 Richmond Street East", wherein it is recommended that:

- "(1) City Council approve an agreement of purchase and sale with Intracorp Developments (French Quarter II) Ltd. for the sale of 111 and 117 Richmond Street East (Municipal Carpark No. 63) and the acquisition of strata title to a portion of the proposed development containing a 12 space at-grade parking facility built to the Parking Authority's specifications. The total value of the transaction is \$440,000, which includes a cash payment of \$300,000 and the construction and conveyance of the parking spaces which is valued at approximately \$140,000;
- (2) upon acquisition, that the lands to be acquired be designated for municipal parking purposes to be operated by the Toronto Parking Authority; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take whatever action necessary to give effect to the foregoing."

6. VETERANS' CLUBHOUSES AND LEGION HALLS - PROPERTY TAX REBATES UNDER SECTION 442.1 OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT.

City Clerk.

(September 24, 1999)

Advising that the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force on September 22, 1999, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee, and Council, that:

- (1) the City discontinue the current tax relief program of providing exemptions and grants for the City share of taxes for Veterans' Clubhouses and Legion Halls;
- (2) for 1999, 2000 and 2001, City Council adopt a rebate program under Section 442.1 of the Municipal Act to provide for the rebate of property taxes representing 100% of

the property taxes payable on the clubhouse portion of the property for the Veterans' Clubhouses and Legion Halls listed in Appendix 1;

- (3) the amount of \$140,050 allocated in the 1999 Operating Budget under Non-Program Expenditures - Consolidated Corporate Grants - Legions be transferred to Non-Program Expenditures - Tax Deficiencies;
- (4) each veterans' organization receiving a property tax rebate provide annually to the City by September 1 each year, organizational, operational and financial information in a form satisfactory to the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer;
- (5) the tax rebate program for Veterans' Clubhouses and Legion Halls be reviewed by June, 2001, with such review to include examination of the membership and financial status of such organizations to determine the appropriateness of continuing the tax rebate program;
- (6) authority be granted for the introduction of the necessary bill in Council; and
- (7) the appropriate civic officials be authorized to carry out the required actions to give effect to the foregoing.

7. FAIR TAX POLICY FOR ETHNO-CULTURAL CENTRES AND SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS.

City Clerk.

(September 24, 1999)

Advising that the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force on September 22, 1999, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee, and Council, the adoption of the report (September 15, 1999) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, wherein it is recommended that:

- (1) one time funding in the amount of \$4.3 million (City share) be provided from the Tax Deficiencies account of the 1999 Operating Budget to cancel rebate property taxes without penalty to December 31, 1997, in accordance with the authority provided by private bill legislation, and to rebate the 1998 and 1999 property taxes without penalty pursuant to the Small Business and Charities Protection Act taxes, 1997, for the seven organizations shown under heading (A) of Table 1(a) who have received the support of the former Councils regarding Private Bill legislation, which has been enacted, and for whom the property taxes have yet to be cancelled/rebated;
- (2) one time funding in the amount of \$130.0 thousand (City share) also be provided from the Tax Deficiencies account of the 1999 Operating Budget to rebate the 1998 and 1999 property taxes without penalty pursuant to the Small Businesses and Charities Protection Act, 1997, for the four organizations shown under headings (B) and (C) of Table 1(a), subject to the organization meeting the eligibility criteria respecting property tax rebates for ethno-cultural organizations proposed in this report and attached as Appendix A;

- (3) a corporate expenditure program of "Property Tax Rebates - Ethno-Cultural and Similar Organizations" be established in the 2000 Operating Budget for the purpose of property tax rebates as provided for under the Small Business and Charities Protection Act, 1997 and the eligibility criteria, and ongoing conformity requirements, respecting requests for property tax relief by Ethno-Cultural and Similar Organizations, as embodied in this report and attached as Appendix A, be adopted;
- (4) funding in the amount of \$1.0 million be transferred from the Tax Deficiencies budget line to a new budget line "Property Tax Rebates - Ethno-Cultural and Similar Organizations" in the new 2000 operating budget for the program described in (3) above; and
- (5) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to introduce the necessary bills and to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

8. PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR LOW-INCOME DISABLED PERSONS - CRITERIA AND PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT.

City Clerk.

(September 24, 1999)

Advising that the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force on September 22, 1999, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee, and Council:

- (I) the adoption of report (September 21, 1999) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, wherein it is recommended that:
 - “(1) the following expanded eligibility criteria for low-income disabled persons or the spouse of such a person be adopted:

To be eligible as a low-income disabled person, a person:

 - (i) must have owned and occupied the residential property for one year; and
 - (ii) must be receiving disability benefits under any one of the following: Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), Canada Pension Plan, Workplace Safety Insurance Board (WSIB), Unemployment Insurance Sickness Benefit, Motor Vehicle Accident Insurance, Private Disability Insurance Plan, Employer Disability Insurance Plan or disability programs provided by Professional Associations;
 - (2) a graduated deferral program for low-income disabled persons be implemented based on the income levels as set out in this report;
 - (3) no interest be charged on the deferred tax amount;

- (4) the changes to the tax deferral program for low-income disabled persons, as set out in this report, be applied retroactively to January 01, 1998 and the applications already received for the 1998 and 1999 tax years be reviewed based on the expanded criteria and program;
 - (5) all administrative terms and conditions of the current low-income senior and low-income disabled tax deferral program, as established by By-law No. 603-1998, apply to the expanded eligibility criteria for low-income disabled persons;
 - (6) authority be granted for introduction of necessary bills in Council; and
 - (7) the appropriate civic officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.”; and
- (2) that the Mayor be requested to write to the Premier of Ontario requesting the Provincial Government to expedite the special legislation requested by the City respecting deferral of property tax for low income persons and seniors.

**9. ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO -
GAS FRANCHISE DEFENSE FUND.**

City Clerk.

(September 27, 1999)

Advising that the Telecommunications Steering Committee on September 24, 1999, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee, and Council, that the City of Toronto contribute to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Gas Franchise Defence Fund at a rate of three cents per capita on a one-time basis; and that the necessary funds be taken from the Corporate Contingency Account.

10. SCHOOL CLOSINGS.

City Clerk.

(September 27, 1999)

Advising that the School Tax Sub-Committee on September 27, 1999, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee, and Council, that:

- (1) there be approval, in principle, for the City of Toronto to develop a response to the Toronto District School Board Proposal Call to identify City interests (costs and opportunities) with the final document to be approved by City Council;
- (2) the Toronto District School Board staff work with City staff to review implementation options developed by the Community Implementation Teams to identify any costs to the City or community users and that notification of all meetings be sent to affected Councillors, City staff and users;

- (3) the Toronto District School Board immediately provide existing child care centers with leases to remain in closed facilities until 2000/2001;
- (4) the City and the Toronto District School Board develop principles and protocol for the re-use of school sites including community outreach and participation, exploring opportunities to meet mutual service objectives (e.g. Child care facilities) existing services being provided first option to lease, open space access being retained, compatibility being ensured, etc.;
- (5) principles and protocols be adopted by both the City and Toronto District School Board; and
- (6) given school closings have a dramatic impact on all services affecting children, families and their communities in the City of Toronto, the Toronto District School Board be urged to fully examine this issue, particularly as it relates to affected programs and schools including feeder schools.

11. ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE - EDUCATION AND AWARENESS WORK GROUP - FINAL REPORT.

City Clerk.

(September 29, 1999)

Advising that the Environmental Task Force on September 27, 1999, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee, and Council, that the Final Report dated September 27, 1999, from the Education and Awareness Workgroup be adopted.

12. MANDATE AND BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR MAYOR'S HOMELESS INITIATIVE RESERVE FUND.

Report addressed to the Community Services Committee from
the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

(September 23, 1999)

Recommending that:

- (1) (a) the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be authorized to create a Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund, in accordance with recommendation no. 16 in the approved 1999 Operating Budget for the Shelter, Housing and Support Program;
- (b) Council approve an initial amount of up to \$5 million to be transferred to the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund in 1999, from the 1999 provincial Housing Download savings within the Shelter, Housing and Support Division's 1999 Operating Budget, contingent on the realization of such savings;

- (c) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services report to Council for approval of any further transfers into the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund that the Commissioner deems necessary;
- (2) the following mandate be approved for the Mayor's Homeless Initiative Reserve Fund:
 - (i) to help stabilize the housing of homeless people or those in identified high-risk groups, by providing one-time capital support to suitable projects that have short timeframes to completion;
 - (ii) to combine with federal capital funding, in the event that federal housing or homelessness capital funding announced within the timeframe of fiscal 1999/2000 requires a City contribution;
 - (iii) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services report to Council on all expenditures from the Mayor's Homeless initiative Reserve Fund on a regular periodic basis;
 - (iv) such funding to be administered by the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, in accordance with the Process for Project Development and Funding Approval set out in this report, including Council approval being required for each specific allocation from the fund in excess of \$25,000.00;
- (3) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer report back at the appropriate time with updated information on 1999 underspending in the Provincial Housing Download; and
- (4) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

(NOTE: THE FOREGOING REPORT WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON OCTOBER 7, 1999, AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS IN REGARD THERETO WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE.)

13. LEARNING, EARNING AND PARENTING (LEAP).

Report addressed to the Community Services Committee from
the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.
(September 30, 1999)

Recommending that:

- (1) City Council endorse the proposed direction for delivering LEAP in Toronto;

- (2) Funds for LEAP be included in the year 2000 budget requests of Toronto Social Services and Children's Services in the amounts of \$1.89 million gross/\$378,000.00 net and \$4.00 million gross/\$800,000.00 net respectively; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

(NOTE: THE FOREGOING REPORT WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON OCTOBER 7, 1999, AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS IN REGARD THERETO WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE.)

14. TORONTO HYDRO RATE INCREASES.

10:30 A.M.

Councillor Howard Moscoe, North York Spadina.
(September 22, 1999)

Expressing concern with regard to Toronto Hydro rate increases affecting several residents across the Greater Toronto Area and raising a number of questions in regard thereto.

15. PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION TRAFFIC BARRIERS FOR SPADINA LRT.

General Secretary
Toronto Transit Commission.
(September 23, 1999)

Advising that the Toronto Transit Commission on September 22, 1999, adopted the following recommendations contained in Report No. 4 of the Toronto Transit Commission:

“It is recommended that the Commission:

- (1) approve a previously unscheduled and unbudgeted expenditure of \$1,500,000 for the provision of permanent traffic barriers along the Spadina LRT Streetcar line from College Street to Front Street;
- (2) authorize the issuance of Purchase Orders to the City of Toronto in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1,400,000, without further authorization, for the design, contract procurement, construction, supervision and project management of the project;
- (3) authorize staff to proceed with project expenditures immediately as required to comply with City Council directives adopted at its meeting of July 27, 28, 29 and 30, 1999; and

- (4) forward this report to the City Policy and Finance Committee for their information.”

16. FEES CHARGED FOR POLICE REFERENCE CHECKS.

Councillor Norman Gardner, Chairman
Toronto Police Services Board.
(August 6, 1999)

Advising that the Toronto Police Services Board on July 22, 1999, recommended that:

- (1) the Toronto Budget Committee agree to reimburse the Toronto Police Services Board with funds equivalent to the cost of processing all reference checks for non-profit organizations only; and
- (2) the Toronto Budget Committee forward this report to Toronto City Council for approval.

ANY OTHER MATTERS.