

Other Items Considered by the Committee

(City Council on December 14, 15 and 16, 1999, received this Clause, for information.)

- (a) **Urban Planning and Development Services: Strategic Priorities for City-Wide Civic Improvements Projects.**

The Planning and Transportation Committee reports having:

- (1) **in accordance with Recommendation (4) of the following report, as amended, forwarded this report and the Committee's following recommendations in this respect to Policy and Finance Committee for consideration:**

- (a) **that the report (November 15, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services be adopted subject to the following amendments:**

- (i) **amending Recommendation (1) by adding the words:**

“and that a strategy for a multi-disciplinary approach to road reconstruction be submitted to Planning and Transportation Committee prior to the Spring construction so that all civic perspectives are represented”,

- (ii) **adding the following additional recommendation:**

“that, wherever local streets are to be constructed, the Commissioners of Urban Planning and Development Services and of Works and Emergency Services, in consultation with local Councillor(s) investigate, and if deemed appropriate, initiate roadway narrowings and sidewalk widenings with tree plantings;”

so that the report's recommendations now reads:

“(1) Council support the continuing development of a well-designed system of public spaces in the City, including streetscapes, based on the adoption of the strategic priorities for Urban Planning and Development Services civic improvement projects outlined in this report and that a strategy for a multi-disciplinary approach to road reconstruction be submitted to Planning and Transportation prior to the Spring construction so that all civic perspectives are represented;

- (b) a clarification of the term “Revitalization”; and
- (c) how the major elements of the Metro Culture Plan as they pertain to public space can be brought forward with respect to civic improvements projects; and
- (d) the circumstances and reasons for removing the trees on Steeles Avenue in the vicinity of York University, and plans for replanting replacement trees.

(November 15, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services describing the process of establishing priorities and the criteria used for civic improvement initiatives by Urban Planning and Development Services throughout the entire City of Toronto, outlining strategies for the implementation of such initiatives, and recommending that:

- (1) Council support the continuing development of a well-designed system of public spaces in the City, including streetscapes, based on the adoption of the strategic priorities for Urban Planning and Development Services civic improvement projects outlined in this report;
- (2) Council’s funding for civic improvement initiatives, as described in this report, continue to be included in the Urban Planning and Development Services capital budget; and
- (3) this report be forwarded to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration.

(b) Standing Committee Service Levels/Standards Briefing – 2000 - 2004 Capital Budget.

The Planning and Transportation Committee reports, after having conducted a preliminary review of the 2000-2004 Capital Budget, having forwarding the following recommendations in this respect to the Budget Advisory Committee:

- (1) that the original submission of \$6.1m for Civic Improvements be reinstated in the 2000-2004 Capital Budget;
- (2) that the amount of \$80,000, recommended by the Chief Administrative Officer, for streetscape improvements in the West Toronto Junction area be approved; and
- (3) City officials be requested to coordinate each project with the work of other departments and agencies.

The Committee also requested the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Transportation Committee to report to the Budget Advisory Committee on the Information Technology component costs included in the Budget.

The Planning and Transportation Committee further reports, for the information of Council, that the motion “to reinstate the Civic Improvements Budget to \$6.1 million” by Councillor McConnell carried on the following division of votes:

Yaes: Councillors Flint, Moscoe, Pantalone, McConnell, Kinahan, Augimeri, Berger, Filion – 8

Nays: Councillors O’Brien and Lindsay Luby - 2

- (i) (November 17, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that the Budget Advisory Committee, having completed its preliminary review of the 2000-2004 Capital Budget, directed that:
 - (1) the 2000-2004 Capital Budget be forwarded to all Community Councils and relevant Standing Committees for consideration;
 - (2) the preliminary request of the Budget Advisory Committee be forwarded to the Community Councils and Standing Committees for information; and
 - (3) the Community Councils and Standing Committees be requested to forward their recommendations pertaining to the 2000-2004 Capital Budget to the Budget Advisory Committee prior to the commencement of the “wrap-up” meetings on December 9, 1999.
- (ii) (November 29, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services - Overhead presentation material;
- (iii) (November 22, 1999) from the West Toronto Junction Team forwarding letters in support of funding for West Toronto Junction Streetscaping.
- (iv) (November 23, 1999) from Sandra Moffat regarding Capital Funding for West Toronto Streetscaping, requesting support for capital funding for the replacement and improvement of Junction sidewalks and overhead wires.
- (v) (November 23, 1999) from I.P. Komarnicky, Jamesbridge Associates Inc. regarding Capital Funding for West Toronto Streetscaping, requesting support for capital funding for the upgrading of the Junction area.
- (vi) (November 22, 1999) from Carolyn Riemer, Dundas West Residents Association Regarding Capital Funding for West Toronto Streetscaping, requesting support for Capital Funding.
- (vii) (November 26, 1999) from Santa Cuda, Flamingo Banquet Hall Limited supporting capital funding for streetscaping in the Junction;

- (viii) (November 26, 1999) from Tom Caray, President, West Toronto Junction Historical Society supporting capital funding for streetscaping in the Junction;
- (ix) (November 25, 1999) from Larry Burak, Member, West Toronto Junction Team supporting capital funding for streetscaping in the Junction;
- (x) (November 29, 1999) from Henry Calderone, Project Director, West Toronto Junction Team - material representing the Junction Gardens Business Improvement Area, the Malta Village Business Association, the Dundas West Residents Association, and the West Toronto Junction Historical Society
- (xi) (Undated) from Lynn Verhoff, Dundas West Residents Association (DWRA) requesting 100% replacement of the sidewalks from Annette Street to Runnymede Road, the inclusion of decorative pavers in the sidewalks, and the undergrounding of all overhead wires, including those required for streetlights.

The following persons addressed the Committee in respect of the above matter:

- Henry Calderone, Project Director, West Toronto Junction Team;
- Paul Komarnicky, Junction Gardens BIA; and
- Lynn Verhoff, Dundas West Residents' Association.

(c) Council of Toronto Watersheds.

The Planning and Transportation Committee reports having:

- (1) adopted the report (November 12, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services subject to deleting reference to the establishment of a Watershed Council and in so doing:**
 - (a) referred the proposal for a Forum of Grassroots Community-led Watershed Groups to the Environmental Task Force;**
 - (b) requested the Environmental Task Force to forward comments on the proposed Forum of Grassroots Community-led Watershed Groups to the December 7, 1999 meeting of Policy and Finance, where that Committee is expected to consider a number of reports on environmental governance; and**
- (2) received the report (November 12, 1999) from the Commissioner, Works and Emergency Services.**
 - (i) (November 12, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services commenting on two funding proposals related to watershed planning in the new Toronto. One involves the creation of a Council of Toronto Watersheds. The second involves the staging of a Forum of Grassroots

Community-led Watershed Groups. This report was requested at the April 16, 1999 meeting of the City's Budget Committee, and recommends that:

- (1) The proposals for a Council of Toronto Watersheds and a Forum of Grassroots Community-led Watershed Groups be referred to the Environmental Task Force;
 - (2) the Environmental Task Force forward comments on the proposed Council of Toronto Watersheds and Forum of Grassroots Community-led Watershed Groups to the December 7, 1999 meeting of Policy and Finance, where the Committee is expected to consider a number of reports on environmental governance; and,
 - (3) the appropriate City Officials be authorised and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.
- (ii) (November 12, 1999) from the Commissioner, Works and Emergency Services responding to a resolution in Report No. 5 of the Urban Environment and Development Committee, as adopted by Toronto City Council at its meeting on April 13, 14 and 15, 1999 requesting the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services, in consultation with The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, to report back to Committee with a list of present watershed initiatives in different areas of the City, and recommending that this report be received for information.
- (iii) The following communications were before the Urban Environment and Development Committee at its March 31, 1999 meeting supporting the establishment of a Council of Toronto Watersheds:
- (March 26, 1999) from Charles Caccia, MP for Davenport, House of Commons
 - (March 29, 1999) from Patrick McNamara, Associate Registrar of the College of Physicians of Ontario
 - (March 31, 1999) from Charles and Pleasance Crawford
 - (March 30, 1999) from Rodney L.K. Smith

Dalton Shipway, Member of Watersheds United, addressed the Committee in respect to this matter.

(d) A Unified Architecture and Urban Design Awards Program for Toronto 2000.

The Planning and Transportation Committee reports having recommended the adoption of the following report (November 15, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services and in accordance with Recommendation (4) therein, forwarded this report, and the Committee's recommendation in this regard, to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration.

(November 15, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services reporting on developing, for 2000, a unified Architecture and Urban Design Awards program for the City of Toronto to replace those that have existed in the former municipalities of Etobicoke, North York, Scarborough and Toronto. The new combined competition will capture all the best elements of previous programs. It's objective is to promote the excellence in architecture and urban design and create a beautiful city, and recommending that:

- (1) a unified Architecture and Urban Design Awards program be established for the City of Toronto;
- (2) Urban Planning and Development Services staff be requested to develop in detail a program for the 2000 Architecture and Urban Design Awards;
- (3) funds in the amount of \$65,000 be prior authorized for scheduling purposes and be added to the Urban Planning and Development Services 2000 Operating Budget; and
- (4) this report be forwarded to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration

(e) Delegation of Authority to Grant Minor Variances from Sign By-Law.

The Planning and Transportation Committee reports having received the following report (October 18, 1999) from the City Solicitor.

(October 18, 1999) from the City Solicitor reporting on how Council's authority to grant minor variances from the former City of Toronto Sign By-law could be delegated in routine situations and recommending this report be received for information.

(f) Commercial Parking as a Disincentive to Public Transit.

The Planning and Transportation Committee reports having referred the report (November 22, 1999) from Councillor Moscoe to the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services with a request that he report to the Planning and Transportation Committee on:

- (1) removing disincentives to develop commercial parking lots in the City of Toronto;**
- (2) encouraging the use of public transit; and**
- (3) limiting the creation of new commercial parking.**

(November 23, 1999) from Councillor Moscoe raising concerns respecting potentially developable land being used as commercial parking lots which, in turn, are a disincentive to public transit use, and recommending that the Acting Commissioner of Urban Planning and Development Services review the zoning and licensing of commercial parking lots in Toronto with a view to:

- (a) removing the disincentive to develop these lands;
- (b) encouraging the use of public transit; and
- (c) limiting the creation of new commercial parking.

Respectfully submitted,

JOANNE FLINT
Chair

Toronto, November 29, 1999