

Other Items Considered by the Committee

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

(a) 2000-2004 Capital Budget Preliminary Review.

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having:

- (1) received the following communication from the City Clerk;**
- (2) referred the following 2000-2004 Capital Budget Programs to the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration:**
 - Toronto Economic Development Corporation (TEDCO);**
 - Toronto Parking Authority;**
 - Toronto Police Service;**
 - Toronto Public Library;**
 - Toronto Transit Commission (TTC);**
 - Toronto Zoo; and**
 - Toronto and Region Conservation Authority; and**
- (3) concurred with the following request embodied in the communication (November 29, 1999) from Councillor David Soknacki:**

“That the Chief Administrative Officer be requested to present to the Policy and Finance Committee prior to March 1, 2000, a revised budget process to be implemented for the 2001 Capital and Operating Budgets to allow Council’s Standing Committees to prioritize budget requests, taking into account targets set by the Budget Committee and requests for funding submitted to Council’s Standing Committees.”:
- (ii) (November 17, 1999) from the City Clerk, advising that the Budget Advisory Committee has completed its preliminary review of the 2000-2004 Capital Budget and directed that:**
 - (1) the 2000-2004 Capital Budget be forwarded to all Community Councils and relevant Standing Committees for consideration;**

- (2) the preliminary requests 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;

with respect to the following:

- (1) Toronto Economic Development Corporation (TEDCO);
 - (2) Toronto Parking Authority;
 - (3) Toronto Police Service;
 - (4) Toronto Public Library;
 - (5) Toronto Transit Commission (TTC);
 - (6) Toronto Zoo; and
 - (7) Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.
- (ii) (November 29, 1999) from Councillor David Soknacki, requesting the Chief Administrative Officer to present to the Policy and Finance Committee prior to March 1, 2000, a revised budget process to be implemented for the 2001 Capital and Operating Budgets to allow Council's Standing Committees to prioritize budget requests, taking into account targets set by the Budget Committee and requests for funding submitted to Council's Standing Committees.

Councillor David Soknacki, Scarborough Highland Creek, appeared before the Policy and Finance Committee in connection with the foregoing matter.

(b) Accounts Receivable – Largest Debtors.

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having:

- (1) **received the following report; and**
- (2) **requested the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to submit a similar report to the Policy and Finance Committee in one year's time:**

(November 22, 1999) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, providing information on outstanding receivables related to property taxes; advising that the largest outstanding receivables that the City has relate to property taxes; that each year the City bills over \$4.6 billion in tax revenue, of which \$2.5 billion is for municipal purposes; that the Finance Department has a team of revenue collectors who actively pursue collection of outstanding receivables; that in the case of property taxes, *the Municipal Tax Sales Act* stipulates that tax sale proceedings can commence once taxes have been in arrears for three years (for land with a building) or two years for vacant land; and recommending that this report be received for information.

(c) Additional Expenditures for Work on Design-Build Contract RFP No. 9155-99-01548 for Biosolids Truck Loading and Odour Control Facilities.

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having received the following joint report:

(November 17, 1999) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer advising of the requirement for additional expenditures in the amount of approximately \$1.54 million, inclusive of GST, associated with the construction of biosolids truck loading and odour control facilities at the Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant; that in order to expedite progress on this project, to comply as closely as possible to Council's targeted completion date as well as to limit the liability for any possible delay claims, staff have authorized the Contractor to undertake the extra work at an additional cost of \$1.54 million, inclusive of GST; that funding for this additional expenditure is currently not available in the approved 1999-2003 Capital Works program and was not forecasted in the preparation of the currently submitted proposed 2000-2004 Capital Works program; that additional funding in the amount of approximately \$1.48 million, after Municipal Goods and Services Tax Rebate, will be required over and above the amount currently included in the proposed 2000-2004 Capital Works Program submission as identified under Capital Account WP160-2200011, Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant; that the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial impact statement; and recommending that this report be received for information.

(d) Area Specific Development Charges.

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having received the following communication:

(November 3, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that City Council on October 26 and 27, 1999, had before it Clause No. 19 of Report No. 8 of The Policy and Finance Committee, headed "Other Items Considered by the Committee" and directed that the aforementioned Clause be received as information, subject to striking out and referring Item (h), entitled "Area Specific Development Charges", embodied therein, back to the Policy and Finance Committee for further consideration:

Ms Yvonne Hamlin, Solicitor, Goodman and Carr, appeared before the Policy and Finance Committee in connection with the foregoing matter.

(e) **Cost Estimate for a Cost Benefit Analysis of Internal Vs. External Legal Services.**

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having referred the following communication to the Administration Committee for consideration:

(November 3, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that City Council on October 26 and 27, 1999, had before it Clause No. 19 of Report No. 8 of The Policy and Finance Committee, headed "Other Items Considered by the Committee" and directed that the aforementioned Clause be received as information, subject to striking out and referring Item (a), entitled "Cost ", embodied therein, back to the Policy and Finance Committee for further consideration:

(f) **Project Approval – Fibre Optics and Subway Radio Communication Project.**

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having referred the following communication to the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration:

(November 19, 1999) from the General Secretary, Toronto Transit Commission advising that the Toronto Transit Commission, on November 17, 1999:

(I) approved the following recommendations contained in the staff report (November 17, 1999) entitled, "Project Approval – Fibre Optics and Subway Radio Communication Project":

"It is recommended that the Commission approve:

- (i) forwarding this report to the City of Toronto Council, requesting increased project approval of \$2,334,000 (gross and net) for City Project No. 231 as the expenditure for this will be required in advance of receiving approval from the City for the 2000-2004 Capital Program; and
 - (ii) the holding of funds in TTC accounts until additional funds are approved."; and
- (II) requested that a copy of this report be forwarded to the City Telecommunications Steering Committee for information; and
- (III) forwarded the foregoing to the City of Toronto through the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration and approval of the Commission's request for increased project approval of \$2,334,000 for City Project No. 231, as well as the City Telecommunications Steering Committee for information.

(g) Protecting the City of Toronto's Assessment Base.

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having referred the following communication to the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer for report thereon to the Policy and Finance Committee:

(November 8, 1999) from Councillor Joe Mihevc, York Eglinton, advising that as Members of Council are aware, assessment of municipal properties is not a municipal responsibility but one of the Province's Assessment Office; that the City of Toronto can stand to lose millions of dollars for assessment related reasons; that these include:

- (a) new construction of residential, commercial and industrial;
- (b) renovation/additions, etc.; and
- (c) failure to represent the City when assessments are appealed; and

requesting that staff respond to the suggestion of a Toronto Assessment Office or City staff whose role would be to carry out the aforementioned functions.

(h) June 1999 Operating Variance Report – Supplementary Report.

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having received the following report:

(November 26, 1999) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer providing details of the increase in projected 1999 expenditures as compared to 1998 expenditures for the Works and Emergency Services (\$60.2 million) and Finance (\$3.2 million) Departments; including an analysis of the basis for an increase of \$38.2 million in 1999 over 1998 in Water revenues and explaining the prior year surplus amount recorded in the City's accounts as at June 30, 1999; and recommending that this report be received.

(i) Oakwood Avenue Reconstruction Regal Road to St. Clair Avenue West.

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having referred the following communication to the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration:

(November 26, 1999) from the Councillor Tom Jakobek, East Toronto forwarding a communication (November 26, 1999) from Councillor Betty Disero, Davenport, respecting the Oakwood Avenue reconstruction project (Regal Road to St. Clair Avenue West) requesting that an amount of \$15,000.00 be provided to place identifying inlays at some intersections and a bus shelter at the intersection of Oakwood Avenue and Rosemount Avenue.

**(j) Proposed Purchases Hydro Corridor Lands
North of Highway 401 – (Scarborough Wexford – Ward 14
and Scarborough City Centre – Ward 17).**

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having forwarded confidential recommendations and the following confidential communication and reports respecting the Proposed Purchase of Hydro Corridor Lands, to Council for its meeting scheduled to be held on December 14, 1999, for consideration with Clause No. 4 of Report No. 8 of the Administration Committee:

- (i) (December 1, 1999) from the City Clerk;**
- (ii) (December 2, 1999) from the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; and**
- (iii) (December 6, 1999) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.**

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

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having referred the following communication to the Chief Administrative Officer for report thereon to the Policy and Finance Committee:

(December 2, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that the Planning and Transportation Committee on November 29, 1999, amongst other things, recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that:

- (A) the report (November 15, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner of Urban Planning and Development Services be adopted subject to the following amendments:**
 - (a) amending Recommendation No. (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;”;
 - (b) 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 read:

- “(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;
 - (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) 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;
 - (4) this report be forwarded to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration;”;
- (B) the body of the report (November 15, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner of Urban Planning and Development Services be amended by classifying Wilson Avenue from Avenue Road to Keele Street as a Reinvestment District;
 - (C) there be a visual artist on the design team for all public projects to which the public has access;
 - (D) whenever there are public works to be carried out in areas that are identified for civic improvements, that the Commissioners of Works and Emergency Services and Urban Planning and Development Services work together on the implementation of these improvements; and

in accordance with Recommendation No. (4) of the above-noted report, as amended, forward this matter and the Committee’s recommendations in this respect to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration.

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

The Policy and Finance Committee reports having referred the following communication (December 2, 1999) from the City Clerk to the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration:

(December 2, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that the Planning and Transportation Committee on November 29, 1999, recommended the adoption of the report (November 15, 1999) from the Acting Commissioner of Urban Planning and Development Services and in accordance with Recommendation No. (4) therein, forwarded this report, and the committee's recommendation in this regard, to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

CASE OOTES
Acting Chair

Toronto, December 7, 1999

(Report No. 11 of The Policy and Finance Committee, including additions thereto, was adopted, as amended, by City Council on December 14, 15 and 16, 1999.)