

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of the Community Services Committee

Meeting 1

Tuesday, January 11, 2005

The Community Services Committee met on Tuesday, January 11, 2005, in Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present:	<u>9:42 a.m.-12:32 p.m.</u>	<u>2:15 p.m.-5:35 p.m.</u>
Councillor Olivia Chow, Chair	x	x
Councillor Raymond Cho	x	x
Councillor Gay Cowbourne	x	x
Councillor Norm Kelly	x	x
Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti	x	x
Councillor Joe Mihevc	x	x
Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong	x	x
Councillor David Shiner	x	x

Members were present for some or all of the time period indicated.

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on December 9, 2004, were confirmed.

1.1 2005-2014 Capital Budgets - Community Services Committee

The Community Services Committee considered the Analyst Briefing Notes with respect to the 2005-2014 Capital Programs under its purview:

Works and Emergency Services:

- Emergency Management Plan;
- Emergency Medical Services; and
- Fire Services;

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Community and Neighbourhood Services:

- Children's Services;
- Homes for the Aged;
- Shelter, Housing and Support; and
- Social Services.

The following persons appeared before the Community Services Committee:

- Scott Marks, President, and Ed Kennedy, Vice-President, Toronto Professional Fire Fighters' Association, and filed a submission;
- Adam Chaleff-Freudenthaler, Jennifer Dalton and Hassam Jama, Toronto Youth Cabinet, respecting youth programs, and filed a submission;
- Romona Gananathan, Toronto Neighbourhood Centres, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs;
- Tim Rourke respecting the Tenant Defence Fund and the Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations;
- Jim Tsatsos, Chair, Child Care Advisory Committee of Toronto, respecting Children's Services budgets, and filed a submission;
- Alina Chatterjee, Scadding Court Community Centre, and filed a submission;
- Jane Mercer, Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care, respecting Children's Services budgets, and filed a submission;
- Michael Armson respecting the Shelter, Housing and Support budgets;
- Alejandra Bravo;
- Brad Butt, Executive Director, Greater Toronto Apartment Association, respecting the Shelter, Housing and Support budgets, and filed a submission;

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- Amy Casipullai, OCASI, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs, and filed a submission;

- Avvy Go, Equity and Accountability Coalition, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs;

- Howard Watson, Metro Chapter of Canadian Pensioners Concerned, respecting the Shelter, Housing and Support budgets, and filed a submission;

- Todd Minerson, Executive Director, Touchstone Youth Centre and Cindy Cowan, Executive Director, Nellie's, on behalf of the Ontario Association of Hostels, respecting the Shelter, Housing and Support budgets;

- Janice Etter, Toronto Food Policy Council, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs, and filed a submission;

- Rhonda Teitel-Payne, The Stop Community Food Centre, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs;

- Anan Lololi, AfriCan Food Basket, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs;

- Mark Ferguson and Karen McNama, Toronto Civic Employees' Union, Local 416, respecting the Emergency Medical Services budgets; and

- Andi Shi, Chinese Professional Association of Canada.

On motion by Councillor Shiner, the Community Services Committee recommended to the Budget Advisory Committee that City Council:

(1) Works and Emergency Services:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005-2014 Capital Programs for:

- the Emergency Management Plan;

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- Emergency Medical Services; and
- Fire Services; and

(2) Community and Neighbourhood Services:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005-2014 Capital Programs for:

- Children's Services;
- Homes for the Aged;
- Shelter, Housing and Support; and
- Social Services.

(Budget Advisory Committee; Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; Fire Chief and General Manager; Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; All Interested Parties; c. Mr. Alan Cohen, Budget Services; Mr. Don Altman, Budget Services - January 11, 2005)

Report 2, Clause 5(a)

1.2 2005 Operating Budgets - Community Services Committee

The Community Services Committee considered:

- (i) the Analyst Briefing Notes with respect to the following 2005 Operating Budgets under its purview:

Works and Emergency Services:

- Emergency Medical Services; and
- Fire Services;

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Community and Neighbourhood Services:

- Children's Services;
 - Homes for the Aged;
 - Shelter, Housing and Support;
 - Social Development and Administration;
 - Social Services;
 - Association of Community Centres; and
 - Community Partnership and Investment Programs under the purview of the Committee;
- (ii) communication (December 6, 2004) from Councillor Sylvia Watson, Co-Chair, Food and Hunger Action Committee, advising that the Food and Hunger Action Committee on November 23, 2004, discussed the capital needs of community and City-owned kitchen facilities; and recommended that Toronto City Council adopt the following motion:
- “That staff review unmet capital needs of all kitchens and rank their appropriateness for investments and upgrades, and report back to the Food and Hunger Action Committee; and further that the report designate two streams: outside agencies and City-owned facilities.”;
- (iii) communication (December 16, 2004) from the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged recommending to the Community Services Committee that an annual City net contribution to the Homes for the Aged operating budget be maintained and increased annually by an amount equal to at least the combination of cost of living, salary, benefits and corporate charge increases to the program;
- (iv) report (December 31, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services responding to the request of the Community Services Committee on December 9, 2004, to report on alternatives to the Executive Management Team (EMT) recommendations for the Community Services and Housing Grants Service envelopes within the Community Partnership and Investment Program, with a focus on (a) minimally meeting economic factors in each program area and (b) phasing in enhancements and new services.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information;

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- (v) report (December 23, 2004) from the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the Fire Chief and General Manager responding to the request of the Community Services Committee to develop an option to fund the replacement of ageing heavy fire apparatus through the capital program.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information;

- (vi) communication (January 11, 2005) from Ann Dembinski, President, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 79, respecting the Homes for the Aged, Homemakers and Nurses Services, Shelter, Housing and Support, Social Development and Administration and Toronto Emergency Medical Services Operating Budgets; and
- (vii) submission (January 11, 2005) from Celia Denov, Volunteer Board Member, Community Social Planning Council of Toronto, and forwarding a copy of the Community Social Planning Council's City Budget 2005 Analysis.

The following persons appeared before the Community Services Committee:

- Scott Marks, President, and Ed Kennedy, Vice-President, Toronto Professional Fire Fighters' Association, and filed a submission;
- Adam Chaleff-Freudenthaler, Jennifer Dalton and Hassam Jama, Toronto Youth Cabinet, respecting youth programs, and filed a submission;
- Romona Gananathan, Toronto Neighbourhood Centres, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs;
- Tim Rourke respecting the Tenant Defence Fund and the Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations;
- Jim Tsatsos, Chair, Child Care Advisory Committee of Toronto, respecting Children's Services budgets, and filed a submission;
- Alina Chatterjee, Scadding Court Community Centre, and filed a submission;
- Jane Mercer, Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care, respecting Children's Services budgets, and filed a submission;

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- Michael Armson respecting the Shelter, Housing and Support budgets;
- Alejandra Bravo;
- Brad Butt, Executive Director, Greater Toronto Apartment Association, respecting the Shelter, Housing and Support budgets, and filed a submission;
- Amy Casipullai, OCASI, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs, and filed a submission;
- Avvy Go, Equity and Accountability Coalition, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs;
- Howard Watson, Metro Chapter of Canadian Pensioners Concerned, respecting the Shelter, Housing and Support budgets, and filed a submission;
- Todd Minerson, Executive Director, Touchstone Youth Centre and Cindy Cowan, Executive Director, Nellie's, on behalf of the Ontario Association of Hostels, respecting the Shelter, Housing and Support budgets;
- Janice Etter, Toronto Food Policy Council, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs, and filed a submission;
- Rhonda Teitel-Payne, The Stop Community Food Centre, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs;
- Anan Lololi, AfriCan Food Basket, respecting the Community Partnership and Investment Programs;
- Mark Ferguson and Karen McNama, Toronto Civic Employees' Union, Local 416, respecting the Emergency Medical Services budgets; and
- Andi Shi, Chinese Professional Association of Canada.

The Community Services Committee recommended to the Budget Advisory Committee that City Council:

Works and Emergency Services:

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(1) Emergency Medical Services:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005 Operating Budget for Emergency Medical Services;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

(2) Fire Services:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005 Operating Budget for Fire Services, subject to the following amendments:

(a) that, with respect to the Fleet Reserve Provision Increase, City Council be advised that the Community Services Committee does not support the EMT recommended cut of \$1 million; and further:

(i) that the Fire Services contribution to the Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Reserve be funded at \$6.561 million in order to maintain the Council-approved annual incremental budget increase to accelerate the Fire Services vehicle replacement program, as even this amount is less than the Fire Services annual funding requirement;

(ii) that the 2005 EMT Recommended Fleet Capital Budget be increased by \$1 million for the provision of additional Fire Vehicles; and

(iii) that City Council continue with its commitment to eliminate within five years the backlog of 15 year-old vehicles still in service; and

(Motion by Councillor Shiner)

(b) that City Council be advised that the Community Services Committee does not support the EMT recommended cuts to the expenditure categories listed below, and further that funding be

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reinstated as follows:

- (i) \$125,000 to Fire and Emergency Supplies;
- (ii) \$225,000 to Fleet Maintenance Parts;
- (iii) \$85,000 to Medical Supplies;
- (iv) \$150,000 to Fleet Maintenance Contracted Services; and
- (v) \$500,000 to Increase Gapping;

(Motion by Councillor Shiner)

Community and Neighbourhood Services:

(3) Children's Services:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005 Operating Budget for Children's Services, subject to transferring from the Social Assistance Stabilization Reserve Fund to the First Duty Reserve Fund the same amount of funding as was allocated in the first instalment of the First Duty pilot projects;

(Motion by Councillor Chow)

(4) Homes for the Aged:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005 Operating Budget for Homes for the Aged;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

(5) Shelter, Housing and Support:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005 Operating Budget for Shelter, Housing and Support, subject to the following amendments:

- (a) that City Council be requested to endorse the principle of City-wide outreach workers and that Mayor David Miller include these positions in his forthcoming report on a comprehensive approach to housing and homelessness; and

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- (b) the Advisory Committee on Homeless and Isolated Persons, co-chaired by Councillor Jane Pitfield, be requested to consider the establishment of a Youth Housing Advocacy Committee and report on this proposal to the Community Services Committee;

(Motion by Councillor Chow)

- (6) Social Development and Administration:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005 Operating Budget for Social Development and Administration;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- (7) Social Services:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005 Operating Budget for Social Services;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- (8) Association of Community Centres:

adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005 Operating Budget for the Association of Community Centres, subject to the following amendments:

- (a) that funding in the amount of \$15,200 be reinstated for the IT Personnel/Systems Administrator position at Scadding Court; and
- (b) that funding in the amount of \$7,200 be reinstated for the Volunteer Co-ordinator position at Scadding Court; and

(Motion by Councillor Chow)

- (9) Community Partnership and Investment Programs:

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adopt the EMT recommendations pertaining to the 2005 Operating Budget for the Community Partnership and Investment Programs under the purview of the Community Services Committee, subject to increasing the Program by \$1,214,590, as follows:

- (a) providing a 2 percent net budget economic factor increase totalling \$274,590 for the following programs:
- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-----------|
| - | Community Services | - | \$202,740 |
| - | Community Information Toronto | - | \$10,480 |
| - | Breaking the Cycle of Violence | - | \$13,400; |
| | and | | |
| - | Homeless Initiatives Fund | - | \$47,970; |
- (b) providing an increase in the amount of \$140,000 for the Breaking the Cycle of Violence program;
- (c) providing \$500,000 for Food Security grants; and
- (d) providing \$300,000 for Service Development.

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

The Community Services Committee further requested:

(A) Fire Services:

the Fire Chief and General Manager to report to the Community Services Committee on a policy on donating retired fire fighting vehicles and equipment to cities in developing countries; and

(Motion by Councillor Cowbourne)

(B) Shelter, Housing and Support:

the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services to:

- (i) prepare a paper consolidating the various housing and homelessness recommendations approved by City Council for submission to the Federal Minister of Housing during his community consultations in Toronto on January 12 and 13, 2005; and
- (ii) report to the September 2005 meeting of the Community Services Committee on changing the funding formula for hostels.

(Motion by Councillor Chow)

(Budget Advisory Committee; Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; Fire Chief and General Manager; Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; All Interested Parties; c. Mr. Alan Cohen, Budget Services; Mr. Don Altman, Budget Services - January 11, 2005)

Report 2, Clause 5(b)

1.3 Impact of the Provincial Best Start Program on Toronto's Child Care System, Strategies to Restore Provincial/Municipal Cost-Sharing, Service Levels and Develop the City's Child Care System into a Universal Publicly Funded Program.

The Community Services Committee considered a report (December 15, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services describing the Provincial Best Start Program; outlining a number of child care service and funding options designed to restore Provincial-Municipal cost-sharing and restore lost child care subsidy spaces, as well as a strategy and funding to introduce a universal publicly funded child care program at \$10.00 per day.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

The Chair appointed Councillor Mihevc Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Community Services Committee received the report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; and further directed that it be forwarded to:

- (a) the Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education for consideration; and
- (b) the Budget Advisory Committee for information during consideration of the Children's Services 2005 Operating Budget.

(Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education; Budget Advisory Committee; c. General Manager, Children Services - January 11, 2005)

Report 2, Clause 5(c)

Councillor Chow resumed the Chair.

1.4 Future Directions for Legislation Governing Long-Term Care Homes

The Community Services Committee considered a report (December 19, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services on the consultation process being used by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) to seek public input regarding the proposed Long-Term Care Homes Act 2005; describing the process used within the Homes for the Aged Division to solicit input from residents, families, community advisers and staff regarding the discussion paper; and seeking approval of the principles and values that should guide legislative reform which were included in the Homes for the Aged Division's feedback to the MOHLTC.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the principles and values included in this report which have been recommended by the Homes for the Aged Division as essential to guide legislative reform be adopted;
- (2) the MOHLTC be requested to provide additional opportunities to the City of Toronto to make its views known related to the proposed legislative reform, including a meeting with the Parliamentary Assistant, Monique Smith; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Committee also considered a communication (January 11, 2005) from Ann Dembinski, President, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 79.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (December 19, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

Report 2, Clause 3

1.5 Toronto EMS Hospital Offload Delays

The Community Services Committee considered a report (December 16, 2004) from the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services advising Council on the risks and impacts of continuing offload delays experienced by Toronto EMS paramedics in Toronto hospital emergency departments.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

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- (1) City Council strongly urge the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Toronto hospitals to adhere to the principle that hospital emergency departments should assume immediate care of and responsibility for patients brought to their facilities by Toronto EMS ambulance paramedics;
- (2) City Council direct the Chief/General Manager, Toronto EMS, to give priority to serving emergency calls from the public over providing continuing care to patients already delivered to hospital emergency departments;
- (3) the Province of Ontario provide sufficient resources to hospital emergency departments to ensure immediate transfer of patient care from paramedic crews;
- (4) the Chief Administrative Officer, the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services, and the Chief/General Manager, Toronto EMS, seek full recovery of all costs related to offload delays from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, over and above other negotiations about shortfalls in the Province's funding of municipal Emergency Medical Services in Toronto;
- (5) the Chief/General Manager, Toronto EMS, report to the Community Services Committee quarterly on offload delays and issues arising from the practice if it persists; and
- (6) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary actions to give effect thereto.

The Community Services Committee recommended that:

- (i) City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (December 16, 2004) from the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services, subject to amending Recommendation (5) to read as follows:

“(5) the Chief/General Manager, Toronto EMS, report to the

Community Services Committee quarterly on offload delays and issues arising from the practice if it persists; and further that the first quarterly report be submitted to the Committee in April 2005, and provide alternatives on what possible actions can be taken by the City of Toronto;”;

(Motion by Councillor Chow)

- (ii) the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care be requested to provide:
 - (a) justification for Toronto EMS delays at the hospitals concerned;
and

(Motion by Councillor Cowbourne)

- (b) either sufficient financial support and direction to hospitals in Toronto to maintain a maximum one hour off-load time, or sufficient funding to increase staffing and equipment levels to replace the staff detained over one hour in emergency departments;

(Motion by Councillor Shiner)

- (iii) the Councillors that represent the City of Toronto as a member of a hospital board of directors be requested to raise, at their next board meetings, the issue of Toronto EMS wait times in hospital emergency departments;

(Motion by Councillor Chow)

- (iv) the Chief Executive Officers of the following hospitals named in the report of the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services be invited to attend the next meeting of the Community Services Committee on March 9, 2005, to discuss how they have reduced Toronto EMS delays in their respective hospitals:

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- Hospital for Sick Children;
- Scarborough General;
- Scarborough Grace; and
- St. Joseph's Health Care Centre;

(Motion by Councillor Kelly)

- (v) the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the Chief/General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services be requested to report directly to Council for its meeting on February 1, 2005, or earlier by Briefing Note, on Toronto EMS transfer delay issues on a hospital-by-hospital basis;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- (vi) based on the information contained in the requested Briefing Note or report to Council, the Community Services Committee on March 9, 2004, focus on three hospitals where the time delay is highest, and request the Mayor and the Chair of the Community Services Committee to meet with the Chief Executive Officers of these hospitals, such meetings to be facilitated as soon as possible by Toronto EMS; and

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- (vii) the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the Chief/General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services be requested to report to the April 2005 meeting of the Community Services Committee on:
 - (a) options available to the City to provide a maximum off-load time of one hour, after which time the patient will be turned over to the hospital for care; and
 - (b) the cost to increase Emergency Medical Services staffing to replace the paramedics detained at hospitals over one hour, in order to maintain sufficient resources to provide a safe level of

available ambulances staffed by paramedics.

(Motion by Councillor Shiner)

(Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services; Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services - January 11, 2005)

Report 2, Clause 1

1.6 Endorsement Agreements for Accrediting Toronto Fire Services Specialty Module Firefighting Courses

The Community Services Committee considered a report (December 23, 2004) from the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the Fire Chief and General Manager seeking Council's approval to enter into endorsement agreements between the City and Endorsement Review Board for the endorsement of Toronto Fire Services' training courses and for the City providing a release and indemnity.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Fire Chief and General Manager be authorized to execute, on behalf of the City, an Endorsement Agreement between the City and the Office of the Fire Marshal and the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Endorsement Board (the 'OFM/OAFC Endorsement Board') on terms satisfactory to the Fire Chief and General Manager, for a two-year term with the possibility of extending the term for an additional two years at the discretion of the Fire Chief and General Manager, for the purpose of having the Toronto Fire Service Water and Ice Rescue - Operations Level course endorsed by the OFM/OAFC Endorsement Board as a Certification Specialty Module and for the purpose of the City providing a release and indemnity in favour of the OFM/OAFC Endorsement Board, provided that such Endorsement Agreement is in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

- (2) the Fire Chief and General Manager be authorized to execute, on behalf of the City, an

Endorsement Agreement between the City and the OFM/OAFC Endorsement Board, on terms satisfactory to the Fire Chief and General Manager, for a two-year term with the possibility of extending the term for an additional two years at the discretion of the Fire Chief and General Manager, for the purpose of having the Toronto Confined Space Rescue - Operations Level course endorsed by the OFM/OAFC Endorsement Board as a Certification Specialty Module and for the purpose of the City providing a release and indemnity in favour of the OFM/OAFC Endorsement Board, provided that such Endorsement Agreement is in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

- (3) the Fire Chief and General Manager be authorized to execute, on behalf of the City, future Endorsement Agreements between the City and the OFM/OAFC Endorsement Board, on terms similar to the Endorsement Agreements in Recommendations (1) and (2) above, for the purpose of having the OFM/OAFC Endorsement Board endorse as Certification Specialty Modules courses currently developed by Toronto Fire Services, including Vehicle Extrication, Hazmat Training and Fire Fighter Emergency Patient Care II, and for the purpose of the City providing a release and indemnity in favour of the OFM/OAFC Endorsement Board, provided that such Endorsement Agreements are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect to these recommendations.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (December 23, 2004) from the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the Fire Chief and General Manager.

Report 2, Clause 2

1.7 Establishment of HFA Stabilization Cost Centre

The Community Services Committee considered a report (December 14, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services on a multi-year stabilization financial plan for the establishment of a Homes for the Aged Stabilization Cost Centre within the Community Initiatives Reserve Fund.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Council establish a Cost Centre called “HFA Stabilization Cost Centre”, within the Community Initiatives Reserve Fund, to be used to provide a hedge against future fluctuations in provincial subsidies and revenues within the homes program;
- (2) Municipal Code Chapter 227 (Reserves and Reserve Funds) be amended by adding the “Homes for the Aged Stabilization” cost centre to Schedule “6” - Community Initiatives Reserve Fund;
- (3) any operating budget surpluses generated by the Homes for the Aged homes program each year arising from preferred accommodation revenues and operating efficiencies be allocated evenly on a 50:50 basis between the HFA Capital Reserve Fund and the new HFA Stabilization Cost Centre within the Community Initiatives Reserve Fund, subject to the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer’s review of Capital and Operating final results; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, and that leave be granted for the introduction of any necessary bills in Council to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, 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 (December 14, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

(Policy and Finance Committee; Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. General Manager, Homes for the Aged - January 11, 2005)

Report 2, Clause 5(d)

1.8 Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) Call-for-Proposal Process

The Community Services Committee considered the following report and communication:

- (January 4, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services responding to the request of the Community Services Committee on December 9, 2004, to report on the impact of the Call-for-Proposal process implemented by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) on community-based agencies in Toronto, and providing an overview of the new Call-for-Proposal policy.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information; and

- (December 29, 2004), addressed to the Prime Minister, from Mayor David Miller on HRSDC administrative policy changes with respect to the Call for Proposal process.

The following persons appeared before the Community Services Committee, and filed a submission:

- Cynthia DuMont, Executive Director, West Scarborough Community Neighbourhood Centre;
- Minerva Hui, Executive Director, Working Skills Centre; and
- Bob Santos, Executive Director, Link Up Employment Services.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council endorse the action taken by Mayor David Miller, as outlined in his communication (December 29, 2004) addressed to the Prime Minister of Canada, and as recommended by the Community Services Committee on December 9, 2004, viz:

“That the Mayor be requested to write to the Prime Minister and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties, and the Minister responsible for Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) expressing concern with respect to the RFP process to provide funding to community-based agencies and youth employment services, and asking that HRSDC:

- (a) not proceed with the current RFP process until these issues are addressed, continue to honour existing contracts with current service providers;
- (b) provide transparency to its RFP process, and that experience in the field and successful outcome be considered as part of the criteria for funding; and
- (c) work co-operatively with other funding partners, such as the City of Toronto and the United Way of Greater Toronto.”

Report 2, Clause 4

1.9 Community and Neighbourhood Services Income Redistributive Programs

The Community Services Committee considered a report (December 29, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services outlining the total value of Community and Neighbourhood Services income redistributive programs and providing interim consideration of a request to the Province of Ontario for a phase-out of municipal funding for such programs.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information, pending the forthcoming report to the Policy and Finance Committee on long-term options for ensuring sustainable funding for Toronto’s cost-shared social programs.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee received the report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

Report 2, Clause 5(e)

1.10 Changes to Ontario Works Announced by the Minister of Community and Social Services

The Community Services Committee considered a report (January 4, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing information on the December 15, 2004, announcement by the Minister of Community and Social Services regarding changes to Ontario's social assistance system.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee received the report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

Report 2, Clause 5(f)

1.11 Tenant Outreach and Organizing Services under the Tenant Defence Fund

The Community Services Committee considered a report (December 22, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services on the feasibility of permanently amending the purchase of service agreement with the Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations to increase funding for its tenant outreach and organizing services within the current funding level of the Tenant Defence Fund.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the funding level for the 2005 Tenant Defence Fund remain at \$325,000.00, with funding for the Outreach and Organizing Program component of the Fund set at \$200,000.00, and funding for the Tenant Support Grants Program component of the Fund set at \$125,000.00;
- (2) in future years, the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and/or the General Manager of Shelter, Housing and Support report to the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee on any proposed change to the 2005 allocation level for the Outreach and

Organizing Program; and

- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee recommended to the Budget Advisory Committee that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (December 22, 2004) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

Report 2, Clause 5(g)

1.12 New Provincial Strong Communities Housing Allowance Program - Toronto Pilot

The Community Services Committee considered a report (January 4, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services advising Council of an innovative partnership between the Toronto Community Foundation, the Province of Ontario, the City of Toronto and rental housing owners to assist approximately 400 households with a housing allowance over a five-year period; and requesting authority for the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and/or the General Manager of Shelter, Housing and Support to enter into an agreement with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to access provincial funding for the new program and also authority to enter into an agreement with Toronto Community Housing Corporation to administer the program.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and/or the General Manager of Shelter, Housing and Support be authorized to execute an agreement on behalf of the City of Toronto with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the administration of the Strong Communities Housing Allowance Program - Toronto Pilot for the period January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2009;
- (2) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and/or the General Manager of Shelter, Housing and Support be authorized to execute an agreement with the Toronto Community Housing Corporation to administer the Strong Communities Housing

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Allowance Program - Toronto Pilot for the period January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2009, and to allocate all available provincial funding in two instalments;

- (3) the 2005 EMT Recommended Operating Budget for Shelter, Housing and Support be adjusted by \$3.6 million gross (\$0 net) conditional upon receipt of provincial grants and subsidies for the Strong Communities Housing Allowance Program - Toronto Pilot;
- (4) an assessment of the results of the first year of the pilot program be prepared and reported to Council in 2006;
- (5) Council urge the provincial government to commit to long-term funding for this program and that an administrative component be included in any future housing allowance initiatives to reflect the actual cost of delivering the program;
- (6) this report be referred to Budget Advisory Committee and Policy and Finance Committee for its consideration; and
- (7) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Chair appointed Councillor Mihevc Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Community Services Committee recommended to the Budget Advisory Committee and the Policy and Finance Committee that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (January 4, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, subject to amending Recommendation (2) by deleting the words "two instalments" and replacing them with the words "one instalment", so that such recommendation reads as follows:

- “(2) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and/or the General Manager of Shelter, Housing and Support be authorized to execute an agreement with the Toronto Community Housing Corporation to administer the Strong Communities Housing Allowance Program - Toronto Pilot for the period January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2009, and to allocate all available provincial funding in one instalment;”.

(Policy and Finance Committee; Budget Advisory Committee; Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. General Manager, Shelter, Housing

and Support - January 11, 2005)

Report 2, Clause 5(h)

Councillor Chow resumed the Chair.

1.13 Update on Motions Relating to Affordable Housing Development

The Community Services Committee considered a report (January 5, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an interim response to motions made at the Community Services Committee and Council regarding affordable housing development and the Capital Revolving Fund.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee received the report from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

Report 2, Clause 5(i)

The Community Services Committee adjourned its meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Chair.