

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of the Community Services Committee

Meeting 8

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

The Community Services Committee met on Tuesday, November 8, 2005, in Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:40 a.m.

Members Present:

	<u>9:40 a.m.-12:37 p.m.</u>	<u>2:10 p.m.-4:40 p.m.</u>
Councillor Joe Mihevc, Chair	x	x
Councillor Gay Cowbourne, Vice-Chair	x	x
Councillor Raymond Cho	x	x
Councillor Mike Feldman	x	x
Councillor Norm Kelly	x	x
Councillor Jane Pitfield	x	x
Councillor David Shiner	x	x

Regrets:

Councillor Olivia Chow

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 October 11, 2005, were confirmed.

8.1 2006-2015 Capital Budget – Community Services Committee

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

The Community Services Committee considered the Analyst's Briefing Notes with respect to the 2006-2015 Capital Programs under the purview of the Committee:

- Children's Services;
- Homes for the Aged;
- Shelter, Support and Housing;
- Social Services;
- Emergency Management Plan;
- Emergency Medical Services; and
- Fire Services.

The following persons provided the Community Services Committee with presentations on the 2006-2015 Capital Budgets under its purview:

- William A. Stewart, Fire Chief and General Manager; and
- Nancy Mathews, Executive Director, Social Development and Administration.

The Community Services Committee reviewed the 2006-2015 Capital Budgets under its purview and recommended to the Budget Advisory Committee that City Council:

(1) Children's Services:

adopt the recommendations contained in the Analyst's Briefing Notes pertaining to the 2006-2015 Capital Program for Children's Services;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

(2) Homes for the Aged:

(a) adopt the recommendations contained in the Analyst's Briefing Notes pertaining to the 2006-2015 Capital Program for Homes for the Aged conditional on additional comments provided by a sub-committee of the Community Services Committee whose comments will be forwarded directly to the Budget Advisory Committee; and

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

(b) request the Province of Ontario to fund 100 percent of the

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

capital portion of the Homes for the Aged budget of \$25 million over five years;

(Motion by Councillor Pitfield)

(3) Shelter, Support and Housing Administration:

- (a) adopt the recommendations contained in the Analyst's Briefing Notes pertaining to the 2006-2015 Capital Program for Shelter, Support and Housing Administration conditional on additional comments provided by a sub-committee of the Community Services Committee whose comments will be forwarded directly to the Budget Advisory Committee; and

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- (b) request the Province of Ontario to pay 100 percent of the \$21.6 million needed and restore the historical funding arrangement prior to amalgamation;

(Motion by Councillor Pitfield)

(4) Social Services:

adopt the recommendations contained in the Analyst's Briefing Notes pertaining to the 2006-2015 Capital Program for Social Services;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

(5) Emergency Management Plan:

adopt the recommendations contained in the Analyst's Briefing Notes pertaining to the 2006-2015 Capital Program for the Emergency Management Plan;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

(6) Emergency Medical Services:

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

adopt the recommendations contained in the Analyst's Briefing Notes pertaining to the 2006-2015 Capital Program for Emergency Medical Services;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- (7) Fire Services:

adopt the recommendations contained in the Analyst's Briefing Notes pertaining to the 2006-2015 Capital Program for Fire Services;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- (8) General:

established a sub-committee of the Community Services Committee comprised of Councillors Cho, Kelly, Mihevc, and Pitfield to review the 2006-2015 Capital Budgets under the purview of the Committee and submit their comments directly to the Budget Advisory Committee; and

(Motion by Councillor Pitfield)

- (9) Fire Services:

- (i) requested the Fire Chief to report to the Budget Advisory Committee on opportunities to generate revenue towards the capital costs of the Water/Ice rescue simulator by providing training to other emergency service providers; and

(Motion by Councillor Shiner)

- (ii) requested Deputy City Manager Fareed Amin, in consultation

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

with the Deputy City Manager and the Chief Financial Officer and the Fire Chief, to report to the Budget Advisory Committee on allocating the \$2 million in revenue from the sale of the former fire site at 2756 Old Leslie Street to Fire Services for the capital cost of Station C and on re-allocating the capital funds that were scheduled for Station C for the purchase of new fire vehicles; and further that the Fire Chief report to the Budget Advisory Committee on the fleet maintenance savings which would be achieved, the number of additional fire trucks that would be purchased in 2006 by increasing the fire fleet vehicle replacement budget by \$2 million.

(Motion by Councillor Shiner)

(Budget Advisory Committee; c. Deputy City Manager Sue Corke; Deputy City Manager Fareed Amin; General Manager, Children's Services; General Manager, Homes for the Aged; General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration; General Manager, Social Services; Chief and General Manager, Emergency Medical Services; Fire Chief and General Manager, Fire Services; Councillor Raymond Cho; Councillor Norm Kelly; Councillor Joe Mihevc; Councillor Jane Pitfield – November 8, 2005)

Report 9, Clause 16(a)

8.2 Toronto Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) Uniform Policy

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 21, 2005) from the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services, presenting the results of the internal review of Toronto EMS uniform assignment practices; and seeking Council's affirmation that the present practices should be accepted as the Toronto EMS Uniform Policy.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Toronto City Council adopt this report regarding the uniform assignment and issuance practices of Toronto EMS;
- (2) Toronto City Council affirm that the present uniform assignment and issuance practices be accepted as the Uniform Policy of Toronto EMS, consistent with the uniform protocols described in Appendix 'A'; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (October 21, 2005) from the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services.

Report 9, Clause 1

8.3 Toronto EMS Staff Psychologist Services

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 21, 2005) from the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services, reporting on the current arrangements and cost frameworks for the delivery of services provided to Toronto EMS by its Staff Psychologist, and the availability of such services through the City's benefit plans.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Toronto EMS maintain its current structure for the delivery of psychological services to its staff;
- (2) Toronto EMS continue to use a full-time 'in-house' staff psychologist who can provide services and programs tailored to meet the specific preventive and interventive needs of Toronto EMS paramedic and communications staff; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the

Recommendations Section of the report (October 21, 2005) from the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services.

Report 9, Clause 2

8.4 Motorola Smartzone Equipment Sole Source Purchase Request

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 21, 2005) from the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services, seeking approval for the sole source purchase of additional radio and electronics infrastructure necessary for the installation and integration of the Motorola Smartzone radio system within the Toronto EMS Communications Centre.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) approval be granted for the purchase of additional radio and electronics infrastructure for the Motorola Smartzone system at a cost not to exceed \$529,000.00 including all charges and taxes; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (October 21, 2005) from the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services.

Report 9, Clause 3

8.5 Toronto Emergency Medical Services – Ministry of Health Ambulance Service Review

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 21, 2005) from the Chief

and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services, advising Council that Toronto Emergency Medical Services, subsequent to a detailed ambulance services certification review undertaken by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), has substantively met the requirements of the Land Ambulance Certification Standards and that, further, Toronto Emergency Medical Services' Certificate to Operate an ambulance service in the Province of Ontario will be renewed; and providing Council with an overview of some of the recommendations for improvement that were made by the MOHLTC.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

The Community Services Committee:

- (1) recommended that City Council receive the report (October 21, 2005) from the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services; and

(Motion by Councillor Kelly)

- (2) requested the Chief and General Manager, Toronto Emergency Medical Services, to reconsider the following Recommendation (4) of the Ambulance Service Review Team and submit a report to Council for its meeting on December 5, 2005:

“(4) the Service Provider must ensure each care provider has a criminal record check indicating they have not committed a crime involving moral turpitude for which he or she has not been pardoned and that a copy of the documentation is on the personnel record.”

(Motion by Councillor Pitfield)

Report 9, Clause 4

8.6 Quebec Child Care Model in Ontario Context

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 21, 2005) from the General Manager, Children's Services, responding to the request from the Community

Services Committee to provide background information on the Quebec child care model and the various methods for determination of user contribution to the cost of child care.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

Councillor Janet Davis, Beaches-East York, addressed the Community Services Committee.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, on behalf of Councillor Davis, the Community Services Committee received the report (October 21, 2005) from the General Manager, Children's Services, for information and requested the General Manager, Children's Services, in preparation for new provincial funding initiatives under Best Start, to consult with service providers, users and funders on various models of funding child care services and submit a report to the Community Services Committee for its meeting on March 8, 2006.

Report 9, Clause 16(b)

8.7 Long-Term Care Home Funding Increase

The Community Services Committee considered a Report (October 5, 2005) from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, informing the Community Services Committee about the status of long-term care home funding and seeking the support of Toronto City Council in urging the provincial government to honour its commitment to increase funding to long-term care homes by an additional \$4,000.00 per resident per year to fulfil their promise of a total increase of \$6,000.00 per resident per year made during the 2003 election campaign.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) City Council urge the provincial government to increase long term care home funding in the fiscal year 2006-2007 by \$4,000.00 per resident per year to meet the urgent need for additional resources to adequately care for the frail elderly and other vulnerable persons served by the long-term care sector; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee

recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (October 5, 2005) from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged.

Report 9, Clause 6

8.8 Funding Approvals for the 2006 Supports to Daily Living (SDL) Program

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 24, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, seeking approval for 2006 funding allocations to thirteen community agencies from the Supports to Daily Living (SDL) program.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the General Manager of Shelter, Support, and Housing Administration, be authorized to enter into service agreements with and allocate funds to thirteen community agencies for funding up to the amounts set out in Appendix A for the 2006 Supports to Daily Living Program for a total of up to \$3,725,206.78; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, 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 (October 24, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration.

(Policy and Finance Committee – November 8, 2005)

Report 9, Clause 16(c)

8.9 2006 Funding Allocations for City of Toronto Homelessness Initiatives Fund and Ministry of Community and Social Services Housing and Homelessness Programs

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 28, 2005) from the

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, seeking approval for 2006 funding allocations to community agencies and City managed shelters from the City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund and from Ministry of Community and Social Services Housing and Homelessness Programs: the Provincial Homelessness Initiatives Fund, Community Partners Program, Redirection of Emergency Hostels Fund, and the Off the Streets Into Shelter Program; and also recommending funding for appeals and for an emergency health and safety fund.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized to enter into service agreements with and allocate funds to 13 community agencies in the amounts shown in Appendix A to provide street outreach services for a total allocation of \$2,428,113.00. This total amount comprises funds from both the 2006 City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund (\$1,210,613.00) and the 2006 Off the Streets Into Shelter program (\$1,217,500.00);
- (2) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized to enter into service agreements with and allocate funds to 38 community agencies in the amounts shown in Appendix A to provide housing help services outside of shelters for a total allocation of \$ 4,038,361.75. This total amount comprises funds from both the 2006 City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund (\$3,129,461.75) and the 2006 Community Partners Program (\$908,900.00);
- (3) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized to enter into service agreements with and allocate funds to 30 purchased service shelters/community agencies and six City managed shelters in the amounts shown in Appendix A to provide housing help services within shelters for a total allocation of \$6,457,800.00 from the 2006 Redirection of Emergency Hostels Fund;
- (4) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized to enter into service agreements with and allocate funds to 28 community agencies in the amounts shown in Appendix A to provide drop-in services for a total allocation of \$1,837,940.54 from the 2006 City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund;
- (5) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized to enter into service agreements with and allocate funds to 21 community agencies in the amounts shown in Appendix A for special projects for a total allocation of \$588,184.07 from the 2006 City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund;

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

- (6) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized, pursuant to the three year Partnership Agreement with the United Way of Greater Toronto, to allocate \$250,000.00 from the 2006 City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund to the United Way of Greater Toronto;
- (7) Council designate up to \$37,000.00 from the 2006 City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund for appeals of OSIS and CT-HIF funded projects recommended in this report;
- (8) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be delegated authority to allocate up to \$100,000.00 from the 2006 City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund for a Health and Safety fund consistent with the terms set out in Appendix B; and
- (9) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Councillor Joe Mihevc, St. Paul's, declared an Interest in this matter as his spouse works with East York Family Resource Centre, an organization that is receiving funding.

On motion by Councillor Shiner, 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 (October 28, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration.

(Policy and Finance Committee – November 8, 2005)

Report 9, Clause 16(d)

8.10 Authority to Execute and Administer the Purchase of Service Contracts for Shelter Services, Personal Needs Allowance, Habitat Services, Motels and the Toronto Hostels Training Centre

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 24, 2005) from the

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, requesting authority for the General Manager of the Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Division to sign 2006 agreements with various community agencies and motel operators for the purpose of providing shelter services and personal needs allowances; with Habitat Services for the provision of boarding home services for psychiatric consumer survivors; and with the Toronto Hostels Training Centre for training of shelter staff.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Council approve the per diem rates and bed capacities for the shelter system as set out in Appendix A, subject to the approval of the 2006 Operating Budget;
- (2) the General Manager of Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his designate be authorized to enter into purchase of service agreements with community agencies and motel operators for the provision of shelter services and the issuance of personal needs allowance, up to the maximum contract values as outlined in Appendix A and Appendix E, subject to the approval of the 2006 Operating Budget;
- (3) the General Manager of Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his designate be authorized to issue payments pursuant to the purchase of service agreements to the community agencies and motels, up to the maximum contract values listed in Appendix A and Appendix E, provided the total payments are within the 2006 Approved Operating Budget;
- (4) the General Manager of Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his designate be authorized to contract on an annual basis with Mental Health Program Services of Metropolitan Toronto (Habitat Services) for the provision of housing and supports for psychiatric consumer survivors living in Habitat contracted boarding or rooming houses;
- (5) the General Manager of Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his designate be authorized to issue payments pursuant to the purchase of service agreement to Mental Health Program Services of Metropolitan Toronto (Habitat Services), within the 2006 Approved Operating Budget;
- (6) the General Manager of Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his designate be authorized to contract with and issue payments pursuant to the contracts with motel operators for the provision of shelter, provided the total payments are within the 2006 Approved Operating Budget;
- (7) the General Manager of Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his

designate be authorized to make in-year adjustments on an annual basis to individual shelter's per diem rates and/or bed capacities so long as the adjustments do not exceed the Approved Operating Budget, and to report out to Council on an annual basis through the Annual Per Diem report regarding these adjustments;

- (8) the General Manager of Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his designate be authorized to set personal needs allowance rates on an annual basis subject to provincial rates and cost sharing agreement, provided those rates do not exceed the 2006 Approved Operating Budget;
- (9) the General Manager of Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his designate be authorized to enter into an annual contract and issue payments to the Toronto Hostels Training Centre for the administration and provision of training for shelter staff up to a maximum amount of \$198,000.00;
- (10) the General Manager of Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and/or his designate be authorized to purchase up to \$42,000.00 in training for staff of the directly operated shelters from the Hostel Training Centre in order to meet the training requirements laid out in the Council approved Toronto Shelter Standards subject to the approval of the 2006 Operating Budget; and
- (11) the appropriate officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Kelly, 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 (October 24, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration.

(Policy and Finance Committee – November 8, 2005)

Report 9, Clause 16(e)

8.11 Harm Reduction Programs in Shelters

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 24, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, updating Council on harm reduction and abstinence based programming in Toronto's shelter system and responding to Council requests for information on the distribution of cigarettes and alcohol in shelter

programs.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Pitfield, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council request the Province of Ontario not to close the 36 detox beds in the City of Toronto but rather open additional beds.

Report 9, Clause 9

8.12 Continuing Erosion of Ontario Works Benefits Rates

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 14, 2005) from the General Manager, Social Services, providing an update on the status of social assistance benefit rates and making recommendations for adjustments to the Ontario Works rate structure that recognizes the cost of living in a large city such as Toronto.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) in response to the continuing erosion of social assistance rates, particularly in an expensive city such as Toronto, City Council request that the Province adjust the Ontario Works benefit rates structure in accordance with the following:
 - (a) the shelter component maximum for Ontario Works clients equal 85 percent of the median market rent for each local housing market, based on annual surveys conducted by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation;
 - (b) the basic needs component maximum for Ontario Works clients be increased by 21.6 percent and thereafter adjusted annually to reflect the findings of yearly nutritious food basket surveys conducted by local Boards of Health based on protocols established by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care;
- (2) recognizing municipal property taxes as an unsustainable funding mechanism for

income security programs, City Council strongly urge the Province to assume responsibility for funding all social assistance benefits, including the Ontario Works benefits and related increases discussed in this report;

- (3) this report be forwarded to the Minister of Community and Social Services; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Community Services Committee also considered the following submissions:

- (i) (November 7, 2005) from Susan Preston, BSW, MSW, RSW, Board of Directors, Central Ontario Branch, Ontario Association of Social Workers;
- (ii) (November 8, 2005) from Dr. Mimi Divinsky, Steering Committee, Medical Reform Group;
- (iii) (undated) from R. Anthony H. Rock; and
- (iv) (November 8, 2005) from Deb Phelps, RN, Health Promoter, Queen West CHC.

The following persons addressed the Community Services Committee:

- John Argue, Coordinator, Ontario Coalition for Social Justice (OCSJ), and filed a written submission;
- Julie Haubrich and Charmaine Flowers, Houselink Community Homes;
- Dana Milne, Provincial Organizer, Income Security Advocacy Centre, and filed a written submission;
- Victor Willis, Executive Director, PARC (Parkdale Activity – Recreation Centre), and filed a written submission on behalf of Dr. Mimi Divinsky, Medical Reform Group;
- Lily Chang, Treasurer, CUPE Local 79, and filed a written submission;
- Cherryann Nurse;
- Sonny Yeung;
- Dawn Wellington, YPNFA Respite Care Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator, and Nzingha Nongwaya, Jessie's Centre for Teenagers;

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

- Cheryl Duggan;
- Sarah Mason-Case and Stephanie Pasternak, Students-at-Law, Parkdale Community Legal Services, and filed a written submission;
- Sayonara Mairena, on behalf of Sandra Van, LAMP Community Health Centre, and filed a written submission;
- Sharon Doronila on behalf of Helen Marquis, South Etobicoke Community Legal Services, and filed a written submission;
- Tim Rourke;
- Beth Wilson and Falguni Desai, Community Social Planning Council of Toronto, and filed a written submission;
- Katie Scaife, Sistering Women's Drop-In; and
- Judy Sutherland.

The Community Services Committee recommended that City Council:

- (I) adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (October 14, 2005) from the General Manager, Social Services, subject to:
 - (i) amending Recommendation (1)(a) by deleting "85 percent" and replacing it with "100 percent";
 - (ii) amending Recommendation (1)(b) by deleting "21.6 percent" and replacing it with "40 percent" and by adding "and that the increase to basic needs include an amount for other living expenses, in addition to food, which could be calculated using Statistics Canada's average household expenditures for Toronto";
 - (iii) adding the following new Recommendation (1);

- “(1) Toronto City Council identify the alleviation of poverty as a priority of Toronto City Council;”;
- (iv) adding the following new Recommendations:
- (6) the Province of Ontario be requested to end the clawback of the National Child supplement;
- (7) City Council recommend to the Province of Ontario that persons in receipt of the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) receive a cost-of-living increase in their assistance; and
- (8) the General Manager, Social Services, work with community agencies and partners to develop and implement an advocacy strategy; and
- (v) renumbering the recommendations accordingly;

so that the Recommendations now read as follows:

- (1) Toronto City Council identify the alleviation of poverty as a priority of Toronto City Council;
- (2) in response to the continuing erosion of social assistance rates, particularly in an expensive city such as Toronto, City Council request that the Province adjust the Ontario Works benefit rates structure in accordance with the following:
- (a) the shelter component maximum for Ontario Works clients equal 100 percent of the median market rent for each local housing market, based on annual surveys conducted by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; and”;
- (b) the basic needs component maximum for Ontario Works clients be increased by 40 percent and thereafter adjusted annually to reflect the findings of yearly nutritious food basket surveys conducted by

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

local Boards of Health based on protocols established by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and that the increase to basic needs include an amount for other living expenses, in addition to food, which could be calculated using Statistics Canada's average household expenditures for Toronto;

- (3) recognizing municipal property taxes as an unsustainable funding mechanism for income security programs, City Council strongly urge the Province to assume responsibility for funding all social assistance benefits, including the Ontario Works benefits and related increases discussed in this report;
- (4) this report be forwarded to the Minister of Community and Social Services;
- (5) the Province of Ontario be requested to end the clawback of the National Child supplement;
- (6) City Council recommend to the Province of Ontario that persons in receipt of the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) receive a cost-of-living increase in their assistance;
- (7) the General Manager, Social Services, work with community agencies and partners to develop and implement an advocacy strategy; and
- (8) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto;

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- (II) re-affirm its request to the Province of Ontario that social assistance benefits be 100 percent uploaded and funded; and

(Motion by Councillor Pitfield)

- (III) express to the Province of Ontario that it is unacceptable to provide social assistance to Toronto residents from the City property taxes.

(Motion by Councillor Pitfield)

Report 9, Clause 7

8.13 Christmas Bureau 2005

The Community Services Committee considered the following:

- (i) Report (October 13, 2005) from the General Manager, Social Services, highlighting the successes of the 2004 Christmas Bureau and describing the activities planned for the City's 2005 Christmas Bureau Program administered by Toronto Social Services (TSS).

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

- (ii) Press kit promoting the 2005 Christmas Bureau.

The Community Services Committee received the report (October 13, 2005) from the General Manager, Social Services, for information.

Report 9, Clause 16(f)

8.14 Find Help Information Services (Community Information Toronto) – 2006 Service Agreement

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 20, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration, reporting on the recontracting of a service agreement with the Community Information Toronto (CIT).

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration Division, be authorized to enter into a renewable three-year agreement with Community Information Toronto (CIT) in accordance with the service and legal requirements, terms and conditions contained in this report and; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action

to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report subject to deleting Recommendation (1) and replacing it with the following:

- “(1) the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration, be authorized to enter into a three-year agreement with Find Help Information Services (operating as Community Information Toronto – CIT) in accordance with the service and legal requirements, terms and conditions contained in this report”.

Report 9, Clause 10

8.15 Community Services Grant Program – 2005 Appeals Recommendations

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 12, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration, presenting the recommended allocation from the \$11,661.00 available to respond to organizations that appealed the 2005 recommendations from Community Services Grant Program.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the available funds of \$11,661.00 be allocated as recommended in Appendices 1 and 2 of this report; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Kelly, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (October 12, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration.

Report 9, Clause 11

8.16 Food Security Investment Program – 2005 Allocations

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 20, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration, presenting recommendations for the eligible organizations that applied for municipal support under the 2005 Food Security Investment Program and that are recommended for funding.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the attached 2005 Food Security Investment Program allocations totalling \$300,000.00 for ten programs in 10 organizations as described in Appendix A be approved; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.”

The Community Services Committee also considered the following submissions:

- (a) (November 8, 2005) from Loren Freid, North York Harvest Food Bank, appealing the recommendations relating to the 2005 Food Security Investment Program allocations as it relates to the application by the North York Harvest Food Bank; and
- (b) (November 8, 2005) from Teresa Cameron, Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre, in support of the Eastview Community Market project.

On motion by Councillor Pitfield, the Community Services Committee:

- (1) recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (October 20, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration; and
- (2) requested the Executive Director of Social Development and Administration to submit a report to City Council on December 5, 2005, advising whether there is any available under-expenditure within the 2005 Community Partnership and Investment Program budget that could be used to fund the Flemingdon Park Community Food Program.

Report 9, Clause 12

8.17 Service Development Investment Program – 2005 Allocations

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 19, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration, presenting the recommendations for the applicants that applied for municipal support under the 2005 Service Development Investment Program and that are recommended for funding.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the attached 2005 Service Development Investment Program allocations totalling \$250,000.00 to seven applicants as outlined in Appendices A and B of this report be approved; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (October 19, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration.

Report 9, Clause 13

8.18 Snow Shovelling and Lawn Care Program for Seniors and People with Disabilities

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 14, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration, reporting on the program review of community-based Snow Shovelling and Lawn Care Program for seniors and people with disabilities, and providing an overview and options for the operation and administration of a harmonized program.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) a City-wide Snow Shovelling and Lawn Care Program, delivered through a brokerage model including grandparenting existing subsidy programs, be implemented in 2006;
- (2) the 2006 Operating Budget request for the Community Services Funds Envelope, within the Community Partnership and Investment Program, be increased by \$57.8 thousand to provide funding for the harmonization of the Snow Shovelling and Lawn Care Program; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that City Council:

- (1) adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (October 14, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration; and
- (2) express its thanks to the members of the Mayor's Roundtable on Seniors and the Toronto Seniors' Forum for their input and recommendations which were taken into consideration during the preparation of this report.

(Policy and Finance Committee – November 8, 2005)

Report 9, Clause 16(g)

8.19 Provision of Transit Costs for Participants in a Youth Employment and Training Program

The Community Services Committee considered a report (October 25, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration, describing how the initial four weeks of transit costs will be provided for 100 high-risk youth who will participate in a twelve-month employment and training program at Goodwill.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Shiner, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council request the Toronto Transit Commission to bring forward a policy to assess initiatives to assist organizations providing youth employment training, and report on any loss of revenue to the TTC that providing the assistance would create as these youth are not currently riding the system for these programs, so that the Toronto Transit Commission would be a corporate leader and partner in the City's effort to assist youth in need in Toronto.

Report 9, Clause 14

8.20 Fire Routes By-law Amendment

The Community Services Committee considered a report (November 1, 2005) from the Fire Chief and General Manager recommending amendments to the Fire Routes By-law, Municipal Code Chapter 880, with respect to the designation of fire routes.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Municipal Code Chapter 880, Fire Routes, be amended as set out in the draft by-law attached to this report; and
- (2) the appropriate City staff be authorized to take the necessary action to give effect to these recommendations.

On motion by Councillor Feldman, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (November 1, 2005) from the Fire Chief and General Manager.

Report 9, Clause 5

8.21 Review of the Effect of the New By-law for Fire Safety Boxes on Development Review

Process

The Community Services Committee considered a report (November 2, 2005) from Fareed Amin, Deputy City Manager, reviewing the effect on the development approval process of the new By-Law requiring the installation of a fire safety box in all buildings that require a Fire Safety Plan under section 2.8 of the Fire Code.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Kelly, the Community Services Committee received the report (November 2, 2005) from Deputy City Manager Fareed Amin for information and requested the Fire Chief to submit a further report to the Community Services Committee providing information on the number of violation notices issued by Toronto Fire Services under this By-law.

Report 9, Clause 16(h)

8.22 Annual Alzheimer Coffee Break

The Community Services Committee considered a communication (October 28, 2005) from the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged advising that the Advisory Committee on October 28, 2005, referred the report (October 17, 2005) from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, respecting the Annual Alzheimer Coffee Break to the Community Services Committee for information.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee received the communication (October 28, 2005) from the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged for information.

Report 9, Clause 16(i)

8.23 Appointment to Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged

The Community Services Committee considered a communication (October 28, 2005) from the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged advising that the Advisory Committee on October 28, 2005, recommended to the Community Services Committee that City Council adopt the following staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (October 25, 2005) from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, respecting the appointment of Donna Ryder to the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Donna Ryder be appointed to membership on the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged, for a period of three years, with the provision for an extension of an additional term, as outlined in the terms of reference; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged in the communication (October 28, 2005) from the Advisory Committee.

Report 9, Clause 15

8.24 110 Edward Street: Extension of Emergency Shelter and Referral Centre Programs (Ward 27 – Toronto Centre-Rosedale)

The Community Services Committee considered a report (November 3, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, providing an update on the 110 Edward Street shelter and assessment and referral centre and submitting recommendations for the continued operation of the program.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized to continue to operate 110 Edward Street as an emergency shelter and assessment and referral program beyond April 30, 2006, subject to the approval of the 2006 Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Operating budget;

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

- (2) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized to continue to operate 110 Edward Street as an emergency shelter and assessment and referral program once the sale of the property is complete, subject to the approval of the 2006 Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Operating budget;
- (3) the General Manager, Shelter Support and Housing Administration, report to the Community Services Committee and Budget Advisory Committee prior to the redevelopment of the site to detail the on-going financial cost implications;
- (4) this report be directed to the Budget Advisory Committee for review and consideration; and
- (5) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cho, the Community Services Committee recommended to the Budget Advisory Committee that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (November 3, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration.

(Budget Advisory Committee – November 8, 2005)

Report 9, Clause 16(j)

8.25 Further Information on the SCPI (2003-2007) Update and Funding Recommendations Report

The Community Services Committee considered a report (November 2, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, providing further information on the SCPI initiatives to be undertaken in the fall/winter of 2005/06.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Shiner, the Community Services Committee received the report (November 2, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, for information.

Report 9, Clause 16(k)

8.26 Further Information about One-time Allocations of 2005 City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund and Off the Streets into Shelter Program

The Community Services Committee considered a report (November 2, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, providing more information about the approved allocations for the remaining 2005 budget for the City of Toronto Homeless Initiatives Fund of the Community Partnership and Investment Program and the Off the Streets Into Shelter program.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Shiner, the Community Services Committee received the report (November 2, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, for information.

Report 9, Clause 16(l)

8.27 Shelter Occupancy Update

The Community Services Committee considered a report (November 3, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, providing an update on occupancy in the Toronto shelter system; occupancy information from 2002 to July 2005 in the shelter system; and an update on the request for information on success rates in shelters.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Feldman, the Community Services Committee received the report (November 3, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, for information.

Report 9, Clause 16(m)

8.28 Ontario Works Special Diet Allowance Update

Community Services Committee Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

The Community Services Committee considered a report (November 7, 2005) from the General Manager, Social Services, providing an update on issues relating to the Special Diet Allowance which have emerged in Toronto during 2005.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

The following persons addressed the Community Services Committee:

- Kevin Lee, Scadding Court Community Centre;
- Dana Milne, Income Security Advocacy Centre;
- Virginia Loescher, Scarborough Community Legal Services, and filed a written submission; and
- Charmaine Flowers, Houselink Community Homes.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the following resolution:

“WHEREAS hunger can lead to a host of personal illnesses and medical conditions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council request:

- (1) the Province of Ontario to allow medical practitioners to accept hunger as a medical condition and thus eligible for a Special Diet Allowance; and
- (2) Social Services staff to ensure that social assistance recipients receive all the diet benefits related to their condition and that proper training is given to staff to ensure that Social Services staff do not eliminate any benefit to which a social assistance recipient is entitled.”

Report 9, Clause 8

8.29 Additional \$20 Million from Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund for Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) and Update on Risk Mitigation Strategies in the non-TCHC Social Housing Stock

The Community Services Committee considered a report (November 7, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, responding to Council's request to review the matter of providing an additional \$20 million to Toronto Community Housing Corporation; and also providing an update on the strategies to mitigate the risk in the non-TCHC social housing stock.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) be directed to submit to the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration (Service Manager), by January 31, 2006, an updated analysis, for the ten year period from 2006 to 2015, that documents when TCHC expects to make capital repairs, what cash TCHC can use to finance the repairs (including cash on hand, cash generated from ongoing operations and cash from borrowing) and demonstrates when TCHC will need additional funds to complete capital repairs. The analysis will segregate program areas to allow for any program restrictions on the use of funds;
- (2) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, report to Community Services Committee, by March 31, 2006, on its review of Toronto Community Housing Corporation's capital repair analysis as outlined in Recommendation (1);
- (3) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, report to Community Services Committee, by May 31, 2006, with an update on the strategies being employed to mitigate the capital funding requirements of other social housing providers in the City;
- (4) this report be forwarded to the Budget Advisory Committee for its consideration; and
- (5) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee recommended to the Budget Advisory Committee that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (November 7, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and

Housing Administration.

(Budget Advisory Committee; c. General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration – November 8, 2005)

Report 9, Clause 16(n)

8.30 Community Gardens

On motion by Councillor Pitfield, the Community Services Committee requested the Executive Director, Social Development and Administration, in consultation with the General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Forestry, to submit a report to the Community Services Committee providing information on the number of community gardens in the City and the wards in which they are located.

Report 9, Clause 16(o)

The Community Services Committee adjourned its meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Chair.