



**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
AGENDA
MEETING 1**

Date of Meeting: Thursday, January 12, 2006 **Enquiry:** Candy Davidovits
Time: 9:30 a.m. **Acting Committee Administrator**
Location: Committee Room 1 **416-392-8032**
City Hall **e-mail:cdavidov@toronto.ca**
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario

If the Community Services Committee wishes to meet in camera (privately), a motion must be made to do so, and the reason must be given (*Municipal Act, 2001*).

Declarations of Interest Under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*

Confirmation of Minutes – November 8, 2005

Speakers/Presentations - A complete list will be distributed at the meeting.

Item 1 – 10:00 a.m.

Communications/Reports:

1. 2006 Operating Budgets – Community Services Committee 10:00 a.m.

(Staff Presentations and Speakers)

Analyst Briefing Notes with respect to the following 2006 Operating Budgets under the purview of the Community Services Committee:

- Emergency Medical Services;
- Fire Services;
- Children's Services;
- Homes for the Aged;
- Shelter, Support and Housing Administration;

- Social Development, Finance and Administration;
- Social Services;
- Association of Community Centres; and
- Community Partnership and Investment Program.

(Note: Members of the Community Services Committee will receive the 2006 Operating Budget material under separate cover on January 4, 2006, and are requested to bring this material with them to the meeting.)

FIRE SERVICES

2. Increased Charges for Nuisance and Malicious False Fire Alarms

Report (December 19, 2005) from Deputy City Manager Fareed Amin and the Fire Chief and General Manager requesting that consideration be given to amending Section 441-1 of the Municipal Code to charge building owners for second and subsequent nuisance false alarms in a two-month period and for second and subsequent malicious false alarms over a year to increase potential revenue for Toronto Fire Services to recover costs of responding to false alarms.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Municipal Code Chapter 441- Fees be amended to require Owners to pay a fee for the second and subsequent malicious false alarms, in respect of the same address, per year, per fire vehicle dispatched and to require Owners to pay a fee for the second and subsequent nuisance false alarms, in respect of the same address, per two-month period, per fire vehicle dispatched;
- (2) authorization be given to add two Accounting Assistant 2 positions to the establishment at a cost for salaries and benefits of \$68,724.00 each, plus associated equipment and supplies of \$6,000.00 for both and mailing costs of approximately \$3,575.00 on an annual basis for a total annual cost of approximately \$147,023.00; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

3. Notice of Violations Issued Under the New By-Law for Fire Safety Boxes

Report (December 19, 2005) from the Fire Chief and General Manager providing information on the number of violation notices issued by Toronto Fire Services under the By-Law for Fire Safety Boxes.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

SHELTER, SUPPORT AND HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

4. Villa Otthon – Withdrawal of Funds from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund and Approval of a Second Mortgage (Ward 35 – Scarborough Southwest)

Report (December 19, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, requesting approval for the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to: (a) withdraw up to \$1,572,000.00 from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund and lend these funds to Villa Otthon for required capital repairs at 568 Birchmount Road; (b) negotiate the terms of a loan agreement and collateral security, including a second mortgage and a general assignment of rents; (c) provide consent to Villa Otthon for the second mortgage to secure such loan as required under the Operating Agreement with the City of Toronto pursuant to the Social Housing Reform Act, 2000 (“SHRA”); and (d) apply for the written consent of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing prior to providing the foregoing consent under the Operating Agreement.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) authority be given to the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration (the “General Manager”), to:
 - (a) withdraw from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund amounts required for capital repairs at 568 Birchmount Road (the “Property”), an amount not to exceed \$1,572,000.00, and lend these funds to Villa Otthon;
 - (b) negotiate, execute and deliver a loan agreement, collateral security and ancillary agreements and documentation, including a second mortgage and a general assignment of rents on the Property, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (i) the loan will be non-interest bearing and not repayable until the earlier of the date (the “Commencement Date”) (1) that the first mortgage on the Property held by CMHC is due to mature in 2015, or (2) such mortgage is redeemed;
 - (ii) starting on the Commencement Date the loan will bear interest at a rate equal to the prime lending rate charged by the City’s leading banker plus one percent and be subject to a repayment schedule that would amortize the loan over a period of 15 years, subject to the right of Villa Otthon to pre-pay the loan at any time without interest or penalty;
 - (iii) the interest rate and repayment schedule will be renegotiable, subject to further Council approval; and
 - (iv) such other terms and conditions that are satisfactory to the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor;
- (c) consent, on behalf of the City of Toronto to Villa Otthon mortgaging, charging or encumbering the Property in connection with the second mortgage, as required under the Operating Agreement being administered by the City of Toronto as Service Manager pursuant to the *Social Housing Reform Act, 2000* (the “SHRA”); and
- (d) apply for the consent of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (the “Minister”) required under a Transfer Order made pursuant to the provisions of the SHRA;
- (2) the loan of up to \$1,572,000.00 be deemed to be in the interests of the City of Toronto in accordance with section 107 of the *Municipal Act 2001*, S.O. 2001, Chapter 25;
- (3) the 2006 budget for Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be increased by \$1,572,000.00 gross and \$0 net and be funded by a withdrawal from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund to provide a loan to Villa Otthon for required capital expenditures at 568 Birchmount Road;
- (4) the Province be requested to reimburse the City of Toronto for the \$1,572,000.00 needed for capital repairs at 568 Birchmount Road and to reimburse Villa Otthon for \$184,000.00 in additional capital repair costs incurred after the July 1, 2002 transfer to the City;
- (5) this report be referred to the Policy and Finance Committee and the Budget Advisory Committee for its consideration; and

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

5. Annual Report on from the Streets into Homes: A Strategy to Assist Homeless Persons Find Permanent Housing

Report (December 29, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, providing the first annual report on the Streets to Homes initiative which covers all activity since City Council passed the report, "From the Streets into Homes: A Strategy to Assist Homeless Persons Find Permanent Housing" at its meeting of February 1, 2 and 3, 2005.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

6. Update on the Rent Bank Program and Analysis of Administrative Costs

Report (December 13, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, addressed to the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee, providing an update on the rent bank program, including an analysis of administrative costs associated with the program, and recommending a one-time allocation of funding from the City of Toronto Homelessness Initiatives Fund in 2006 to cover the anticipated shortfall in administrative funds.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) a one-time allocation of up to \$50,000.00 to Neighbourhood Information Post be approved from the 2006 City of Toronto Homelessness Initiatives Fund to cover the anticipated shortfall in administration costs of the provincial rent bank program, subject to the 2006 operating budget process;
- (2) Council request the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to commit to ongoing funding for the provincial component of the rent bank program, including an increase in administrative funding to reflect the actual cost of delivering the program;
- (3) this report be forwarded to the next meeting of the Community Services Committee for their consideration; and

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

(Note: The recommendation of the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee on this matter will be forwarded to the Community Services Committee as soon as it is available.)

7. Aboriginal Community as Program Delivery Agent for Government Funding for the Affordable Housing Program

Communication (December 13, 2005) from the Chair, Aboriginal Affairs Committee, advising that the Aboriginal Affairs Committee on December 12, 2005, recommended that the Community Services Committee adopt the following Resolution supported by the Aboriginal Affairs Committee and in so doing request that City Council direct that the Aboriginal community be empowered to be the program delivery agent for direct Federal and Provincial operational and capital funding towards solving the problems of homelessness, lack of affordable, transitional and supporting housing, and shelter beds for the Aboriginal community of Toronto.

“WHEREAS the Aboriginal community makes up approximately 25 percent of the homeless population;

WHEREAS Miziwe Biik presently delivers funding to Aboriginal agencies;

WHEREAS there is not enough affordable housing for the Aboriginal community;

WHEREAS there is not enough transition housing for the Aboriginal community;

WHEREAS there is not enough supportive housing for the Aboriginal community;

WHEREAS there are not enough shelter beds for the Aboriginal community;

WHEREAS the Federal and Provincial Governments have announced rent supplements are now available;

WHEREAS the Federal Government has announced the third round of the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative;

WHEREAS the Federal and Provincial Governments have announced increased funding of up to \$70,000.00 per unit for the Affordable Housing Program; and

WHEREAS it is important to recognize and encourage community engagement and empowerment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Aboriginal community be empowered to be the program delivery agent for direct Federal and Provincial operational and capital funding towards solving the problems of homelessness, lack of affordable, transitional and supporting housing, and shelter beds for the Aboriginal community of Toronto.”

8. Promised Tenant Protection Legislation and Energy Programs for Low-Income Households

Communication (December 12, 2005) from Councillor Jane Pitfield, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons, advising that the Advisory Committee on November 21, 2005, recommended that the Community Services Committee urge Council to write to:

- (1) the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to urge speedy passage of the new legislation for the protection of tenants from high rent increases and eviction; and
- (2) Ontario Hydro to ask for specific information on the funding programs available to assist low-income households meet the demands of rising energy costs.

9. Closure of Two of Toronto’s Six Detox Centres

Communication (November 2, 2005) from Councillor Jane Pitfield, Co-Chair, Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons, advising that the Advisory Committee, at a recent meeting, requested that the Community Services Committee and the Board of Health ask the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to increase detox treatment service capacity in the City of Toronto.

SOCIAL SERVICES

10. Recovery of Social Assistance Overpayments, Toronto Social Services

Communication (December 15, 2005) from the Audit Committee advising that City Council on December 5, 6 and 7, 2005, adopted Clause 2 of Report 4 of the Audit Committee, and in so doing:

- (1) adopted the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (June 2, 2005) from the Auditor General subject to amending Recommendation (2) by requesting that the Deputy City Manager also provide an interim response to the February 22, 2006 meeting of the Audit Committee, so as to read:

“(2) the Deputy City Manager be requested to respond to the Audit Committee by July 2006, and provide an interim report to the February 22, 2006 Audit Committee meeting, regarding the actions taken to address the recommendations made by the Auditor General in the report entitled “Recovery of Social Assistance Overpayments – Toronto Social Services; and”;

- (2) requested the Province of Ontario to assume the entire cost of the Ontario Works program;
- (3) directed the General Manager, Toronto Social Services, to request the Province of Ontario to improve or replace the Provincial Service Delivery Model Technology (SDMT) to effectively manage the recovery of inactive overpayments; and
- (4) received the report (October 24, 2005) from the General Manager, Social Services Division,

and, in accordance with Recommendation (3) of the report (June 2, 2005) from the Auditor General, submitted this report to the Community Services Committee for information.

11. Proposals for Implementing Toronto Social Services’ Response to the Auditor General’s Report on Recovery of Social Assistance Overpayments (June 2005)

Report (December 15, 2005) from the General Manager, Social Services, describing the proposed initiatives whereby Toronto Social Services will take advantage of the services offered by the Provincial Overpayment Recovery Unit for the collection of Ontario Works inactive overpayments, and utilize an uncollectible overpayment account for outstanding overpayments which satisfy the criteria specified in Section 4 of this report, and submitting recommendations.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the General Manager, Toronto Social Services, be authorized to transfer and/or assign applicable outstanding overpayments established under the *Ontario Works Act* to the Provincial Overpayment Recovery Unit for collection, in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Section 3 of this report;
- (2) the General Manager, Toronto Social Services, be authorized to execute an agreement between the Province and Toronto Social Services where necessary, and satisfactory to the City Solicitor, to give effect to Recommendation (1);

- (3) the creation by the General Manager, Toronto Social Services, of an uncollectible overpayment account in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Section 4 of this report, be endorsed;
- (4) this report be forwarded to the Audit Committee for information; and
- (5) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.”

12. Final Report – Provincial Review of Ontario Works’ Cost of Administration Shortfall

Report (December 20, 2005) from Deputy City Manager Sue Corke summarizing the findings of the 2005 provincially directed review by KPMG LLP (KPMG) of the City’s Cost of Administration for Ontario Works that was released to the City on November 2, 2005; and advising that KPMG’s findings are consistent with the City’s position that administrative costs for this program were in compliance with all Provincial legislation and directives, that the increases between 2001 and 2004 were both reasonable and defensible and that any reductions would come at the expense of service quality.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

13. Improving Access to Public Transit for People Most in Need

Report (December 15, 2005) from the Deputy City Manager Sue Corke responding to a request from the Community Services Committee for a plan that would provide greater access to public transit for people most in need.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Committee adopt one or both of the following two recommendations to develop a broader plan to ensure the TTC is financially accessible to all low income residents:

- (a) that the Deputy City Manager, in collaboration with the Deputy City Manager and the Chief Financial Officer, conduct a review of the scope, cost possible funding sources, and administration options to ensure that all City programs provide transit support to low-income participants where this support would improve program effectiveness; and/or
- (b) that the Toronto Transit Commission be requested to work with the Deputy City Manager and the Chief Financial Officer to develop significantly reduced fare options for low income residents that do not increase the fare cost to other users of the system; and that this work include the cost, possible funding sources, and administrative arrangements for the implementation of these fare options; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

14. “Youth Action” – Youth Safety Project

Report (December 20, 2005) from the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration, seeking approval to receive funding in the amount of \$124,402.00 from the Government of Canada, Department of Justice Canada Youth Justice Renewal Fund, for a post charge community based program entitled “YouthAction” to engage young people who are in conflict with the law.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the Executive Director be authorized to enter into an agreement with the Department of Justice to receive one-time funds in an amount not to exceed \$124,402.00 as the project costs for the YouthAction Project;
- (2) the Social Development, Finance and Administration 2006 proposed operating budget be adjusted by an increase of \$124,402.00 gross, zero net;
- (3) the Executive Director be authorized to enter into agreements with East Scarborough Boys and Girls Club and Native Child and Family Services for the delivery of the “YouthAction” youth safety project; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.



**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA
MEETING 1**

Date of Meeting: Thursday, January 12, 2006 **Enquiry:** Candy Davidovits
Time: 9:30 a.m. **Acting Committee Administrator**
Location: Committee Room 1 **416-392-8032**
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100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario

Additional Communications/Reports:

SHELTER, SUPPORT AND HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

15. Update on the Provincial Housing and Homelessness Funding from the Net Proceeds on the Sale of the former Princess Margaret Hospital and Request for Reallocations

Report (January 9, 2006) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, providing an update on the projects being funded from the net proceeds of the sale of the former Princess Margaret Hospital and requesting that some funds be reallocated.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) up to \$242,650.00 of unspent funds from the Princess Margaret Hospital funds be reallocated to a renovation project being undertaken by the agency Sistering - A Women's Place at 962 Bloor Street West (Ward 19);
- (2) up to \$3,000.00 from the 'Special Project to Reclaim Abandoned, Unsafe, Surplus and Vacant Buildings for Shelter and Residential Use' be reallocated to the Priority Repairs to Community Operated Facilities project;
- (3) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized to further reallocate funding as may be required to ensure maximum and appropriate use of available funds; and

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

16. Additional Funding for the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (2003-2006)

Report (January 9, 2006) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, seeking approval to accept administrative responsibility for additional funding for 2006/07 under the federal Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI 2003-2006) and approval for the proposed allocation of these funds to the six Council approved Community Plan homelessness objectives and for the implementation of specific initiatives and activities to be undertaken with these additional funds.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Council approve the acceptance of additional funding of approximately \$14 million under the federal Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI 2003-2006) for the fiscal year 2006/07, and continue to administer these funds under the terms and conditions of this program, until March 31, 2007;
- (2) Council approve the allocation of these funds towards the six objectives of the Council approved plan, Building on Successes: The Community Plan for Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI) for Toronto, 2003-2006, substantially as outlined in Appendix A; and authorize the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to adjust funding between these objectives as may be required to ensure maximum and appropriate use of available federal funds;
- (3) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to enter into a contribution agreement with ServiceCanada in regard to the additional funding, such contribution agreement being satisfactory to the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, in consultation with the City Solicitor;
- (4) Council approve the specific initiatives under each Community Plan objective, substantially as outlined in Appendix A and authorize the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to enter into agreements with other city divisions, project sponsor agencies and/or private expertise regarding funding of these projects, in a form satisfactory to the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, upon successful signing of the contribution agreement with ServiceCanada;

- (5) the Deputy City Manager responsible for the Affordable Housing Office report back to the Affordable Housing Committee by June 2006, with the recommendations resulting from the Request for Proposals, for allocation of up to \$7 million of the additional SCPI funding for transitional and supportive housing;
- (6) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, report back to Community Services Committee on the results of all other RFPs, EOIs and other initiatives as recommended in this report by September 2006, or earlier as appropriate;
- (7) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, in consultation with the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, report back to Budget Advisory Committee by the Wrap Up Meeting on the detailed budget adjustments required once funding has been confirmed by the federal government; and
- (8) the appropriate City officials be authorised and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

GENERAL

17. Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy and Surplus City Properties

Communication (January 9, 2006) from Councillor Suzan Hall, Etobicoke North, recommending that the Deputy City Manager be requested to develop a policy that prioritizes surplus space for community use in the thirteen neighbourhood areas for consideration by Council and that a draft policy be forwarded to the Community Services Committee no later than March 2005.

HOMES FOR THE AGED

18. Seven Oaks Home for the Aged - Update (In Camera – Litigation or Potential Litigation)

(Staff Presentation)