
Economic Development Committee

Meeting No.	5	Contact	Rosalind Dyers, Committee Administrator
Meeting Date	Thursday, June 7, 2007	Phone	416-392-8018
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	rdyers@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall		

Economic Development Committee		
Councillor Kyle Rae (Chair) Councillor Mike Feldman (Vice-Chair)	Councillor Suzan Hall Councillor Adrian Heaps	Councillor Case Ootes Councillor Michael Thompson

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Declarations of Interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

Confirmation of Minutes - May 9, 2007

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

Communications/Reports

ED5.1	Presentation			
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Presentation - Biotechnology: Fuelling Toronto's Prosperity**Summary**

Presentation, headed "Biotechnology: Fuelling Toronto's Prosperity", by the following on issues and trends affecting the Bio-medical Industry:

- Grant Tipler, President, The Biotechnology Initiative (TBI), Head, Life Science & Health Services, Royal Bank of Canada;
- Bill Laidlaw, Executive Director, The Biotechnology Initiative; and
- Dale Patterson, Vice-President, Medical Discovery Fund.

ED5.2	ACTION		Policy	Ward: All
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Green Economic Sector Development Strategy**Presentation**

(May 16, 2007) report from General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager of the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Division recommends that:

1. The Green Economic Sector Development Strategy and the attached report:
 - a. be tabled for consideration at the July 5, 2007 meeting of the Economic Development Committee; and
 - b. be forwarded to the Climate Change meeting of the Parks and Environment Committee on June 18, 2007, for its information and with a request that any comments thereon be submitted to the Economic Development Committee for consideration at its meeting on July 5, 2007.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Summary

The Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Division (EDCT), has undertaken the development of a Green Economic Sector Development Strategy to support the growth and

recognition of Toronto's environment and renewable energy industry sector, promote environmental best practices among employers and increase the City's competitiveness and retention of existing employment. This report presents the initiative's strategic directions and outlines actions to improve the local/global environment, increase prosperity and better the quality of life for Torontonians.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.2

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4005.pdf>)

2007-06-07-ed05-5.2.attach

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4006.pdf>)

ED05-5-2.attach1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4053.pdf>)

ED5.3	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: All
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2007 Economic Development Sector Investment Program (EDSIP) and Economic Sponsorship Initiatives (ESI)

(May 15, 2007) letter from the Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee.

Recommendations

The Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee recommends to the Economic Development Committee that City Council adopt the following staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (April 30, 2007) from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:

1. that 13 applicants receive support under the Economic Development Sector Investment Program (EDSIP) and that 4 applicants are ineligible (Attachment 2); and
2. Economic Sponsorship Initiative (ESI) funding support the following organizations: Canadian Film Centre, Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA), the Toronto Association of Business Improvement Areas (TABIA) and the Toronto International Film Festival (Attachment 4).

Summary

Respecting the 2007 Economic Development Sector Investment Program (EDSIP) and Economic Sponsorship Initiatives (ESI), and advising that the Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee referred an appeal from the Somali Business Development Centre and late applications from the Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO) and the Old Town Toronto Promotional Alliance to the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism for further review and report to the meeting of the Economic Development Committee to be held on June 7, 2007.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-3

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4007.pdf>)

2007-06-07-ed05-3.attach

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4008.pdf>)

**3a 2007 Economic Development Sector Investment Program (EDSIP)
Appeals**

(May 23, 2007) report from General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends that:

1. the Old Town Promotional Alliance of Toronto receive \$5,000 and the Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO) receive \$5,000 from the EDSIP appeals fund;
2. the Somali Business Development Centre receive no appeals funds; and
3. the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts arising from this report.

Summary

The Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee at its meeting of May 15, 2007 referred appeals regarding the 2007 Economic Development Sectors Investment Program (EDSIP) and the Economic Sponsorship Initiatives (ESI) to Economic Development, Culture and Tourism staff for further reconsideration.

This report presents an assessment and makes recommendations on the EDSIP appeals that were made to the Committee.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5-3.a

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4009.pdf>)

ED5.4	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: All
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2007 Community Festivals and Special Events Investment Program - Economic Development Allocation Recommendations

(May 15, 2007) letter from the Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee.

Recommendations

The Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee recommends to the Economic Development Committee that City Council adopt the following staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (April 19, 2007) from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:

1. City Council approve the allocations for the BIA portion of the 2007 Community Festival and Special Events Investment Program totalling \$37,090.00 as per Attachment 1; and
2. \$2,910.00 be set aside for the appeals process.

Summary

Respecting the 2007 Community Festivals and Special Events Investment Program - Economic Development Allocation Recommendations, and advising that the Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee referred appeals from the Downtown Yonge BIA and the St. Clair Gardens BIA to the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism for further review and report to the Economic Development Committee on June 7, 2007.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5-4

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4010.pdf>)

2007-06-07-ed05-5-4.attach

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4011.pdf>)

2007-06-07-ed05-5-4.attach1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4012.pdf>)

2007-06-07-ed05-5-4.attach2

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4013.pdf>)

2007-06-07-ed05-5-4.attach3

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4014.pdf>)

4a 2007 Community Festivals and Special Events Investment Program - Economic Development Appeal Allocations

(May 16, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends that:

1. the Community Festivals and Special Events Investment Program Economic Development appeal fund of \$2,910.00 be allocated to the Downtown Yonge BIA and the St. Clair Gardens BIA, as identified in Attachment 1; and
2. the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact beyond what has been approved in the 2007 Approved Operating Budget. The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Summary

At its May 15, 2007 meeting, the Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee heard two appeals regarding the 2007 Community Festivals and Special Events (CFSE) Investment Program Economic Development Allocations. The Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee referred the appeals from the Downtown Yonge and St. Clair Gardens BIAs to the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism for further review and report to the meeting of the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Committee to be held on June 7, 2007.

This report recommends that the CFSE Investment Program Economic Development appeal funds of \$2,910.00 be allocated to the two BIAs, as per Attachment 1.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5-4a

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4015.pdf>

ED5.5	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: All
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2007 Commercial Research Investment Program Allocation Recommendations

(May 15, 2007) letter from the Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee.

Recommendations

The Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee recommends to the Economic Development Committee that City Council adopt the following staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (April 19, 2007) from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:

1. City Council approve the allocations for the 2007 Commercial Research Investment Program totalling \$41,600.00 as per Attachment 1; and
2. \$2,200.00 be set aside for the appeals process.

Summary

Respecting the 2007 Commercial Research Investment Program Allocation Recommendations, and advising that the Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee referred the appeal from the Somali Business Development Centre to the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism for further review and report to the June 7, 2007, meeting of the Economic Development Committee.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.5

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4016.pdf>

2007-06-07-ed05-5-5.attach

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4017.pdf>

2007-06-07-ed05-5.5.attach1

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4018.pdf>

2007-06-07-ed05-5.5attach2

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4019.pdf>

2007-06-07-ed05-5.5.attach3

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4020.pdf>

5a 2007 Commercial Research Investment Program Appeal Allocations

(May 16, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends that:

1. the Commercial Research Investment Program appeal fund of \$2,200.00 be allocated to the Somali Business Development Centre, as identified in Attachment 1; and
2. the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact beyond what has been approved in the 2007 Approved Operating Budget. The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Summary

At its May 15, 2007 meeting, the Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee heard one appeal regarding the 2007 Commercial Research Investment Program (CRIP) Allocation Recommendations. The Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee referred the appeal from the Somali Business Development Centre to the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism for further review and report to the meeting of the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Committee to be held on June 7, 2007.

This report recommends that the CRIP Allocation appeal funds of \$2,200.00 be allocated to the Somali Business Development Centre, as per Attachment 1.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.5a

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4021.pdf>

2007-06-07-ed05-5.5a.attach

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4022.pdf>

ED5.6	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: All
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2007 Cultural Grants Recommendations - Major Cultural Organizations (All Wards)

(May 17, 2007) report from General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends that:

- the cultural investment of \$4,436,700.00 be approved for the following organizations:

Art Gallery of Ontario	\$ 481,000.00
Canadian Opera Company	\$1,151,450.00
National Ballet of Canada	\$1,012,000.00
National Ballet School	\$ 122,000.00
Toronto Symphony Orchestra	\$1,004,000.00
George Gardiner Museum of Ceramics	\$ 120,000.00
Festival Management Committee (Caribana)	\$ 436,000.00
Pride Toronto	\$ 110,250.00;

2. the balance of the 2007 instalment payments to the Art Gallery of Ontario, Canadian Opera Company, National Ballet of Canada and Toronto Symphony Orchestra be made as one payment following allocation adoption by Council, and that monthly instalments to these organizations resume in January 2008;
3. the five-year funding agreements dated October 2006 between the City and the Canadian Opera Company, and the City and the National Ballet of Canada, be amended to delete Section 5.2 of the City's responsibilities that states Council shall nominate one member of City Council to the Board of Directors of these two Major Cultural Organizations; and
4. the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

The 2007 Approved Budget for the Community Partnership and Investment Program includes a budget allocation of \$4,436,700 for Major Cultural Organizations. This report recommends allocations totalling \$4,436,700 to eight major cultural organizations.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Summary

The recommendations in this report implement the fourth year of a five-year plan to restore funding to the Major Cultural Organizations to the 1990 level, adjusted for inflation. The increase to the 2007 Approved Budget for Major Cultural Organizations through the Community Partnership and Investment Program is seven percent which was the target for 2007.

Increased municipal investment is important at a time when the City is promoting the many cultural renaissance projects that are complete or are nearing completion and is also promoting the "Live with Culture" celebration of our cultural communities.

The report recommends that eight allocations be approved for the Art Gallery of Ontario; Canadian Opera Company; National Ballet of Canada; National Ballet School; Toronto Symphony Orchestra; George Gardiner Museum of Ceramics; Pride Toronto and Festival Management Committee (Caribana) for a total of \$4,436,700.00.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.6

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4023.pdf>

ED5.7	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: All
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2007 Funding Allocation for Local Arts Services Organizations (LASOs)

(May 9, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

Toronto Culture requests Council to:

1. approve Arts and Culture funding allocations totalling \$427,700 to four LASOs as follows:

Organization	Funding Allocation
Arts Etobicoke	\$193,700
LakeshoreArts	\$ 72,040
Scarborough Arts Council	\$ 87,000
UrbanArts Community Arts Council	\$ 74,960
Total	\$427,700

2. authorize the appropriate City officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of funds	Amount
Available with the approved budget for CPIP	2007 approved budget for CPIP, GL Account 5200	\$427,700

There is no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the 2007 Approved Operating Budget. The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Summary

This report seeks Council approval on the recommended funding allocations for the four non-profit organizations that have applied for municipal support within the Local Arts Service Organizations (LASOs) category of Arts and Culture, Community Partnership and Investment Program (CPIP).

Community arts are the bedrock of the City's cultural ecology. The LASOs are community-based arts and cultural organizations that are essential to a vibrant community arts infrastructure for the City and are an important building block for healthy and cohesive communities. These organizations have sound financial management systems and governance structures. Public funding is necessary as the organizations are not fully self-supporting through private donations and self-generated income.

Allocation recommendations presented in this report are based on the review by Culture staff and a peer advisory panel. Culture staff manage the program and reviewed the funding applications with due diligence and in compliance with the City of Toronto's Grants Policy adopted by Council on December 16 and 17, 1998. Renewed multi-year (2007-2010) funding agreements, which establish a structured link between the City and the four LASOs and guide funding allocations, are in place for this funding cycle.

A total of \$427,700 is in the Arts and Culture funding service envelope for the LASOs within the 2007 Approved Budget for CPIP. Toronto Culture recommends a total of \$427,700 be allocated to the four LASOs for the 2007 funding cycle.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.7

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4024.pdf>)

ED5.8	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: 19, 20
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Museum Grants - Campbell House, Toronto's First Post Office and The Fort York Summer Guard

(May 2, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends:

1. Campbell House be awarded a grant of \$35,254 to be applied to their 2007 operating budget;
2. Toronto's First Post Office be awarded a grant of \$27,196 to be applied to their 2007 operating budget; and
3. The Friends of Fort York be awarded a grant of \$15,000 to be applied to the operation of the Fort York Summer Guard.

Financial Impact

Funds for the total recommended museum grants of \$77,450 are available within the approved 2007 Community Partnerships and Investment Program Budget.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial impact statement.

Summary

Applications from Campbell House, Toronto's First Post Office and the Friends of Fort York for the Fort York Summer Guard, for funding from the Community Partnership and Investment Program budget have been reviewed, and assessed by staff. The organizations have performed

according to their planned objectives over the past year and there are no outstanding or unfulfilled conditions with the City. Campbell House and Toronto's First Post Office also receive funding from the Province. The City staff review process includes consultation with the Province of Ontario's museum funding program staff and a review of the Museums' most recent applications to that program.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.8

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4025.pdf>

ED5.9	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: 27
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2007 Cavalcade of Lights Program - Agreement with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company

(May 2, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends that:

1. Council authorize the General Manger of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism to enter into a Temporary Use Agreement with CP Rail to allow for the installation of a Cavalcade of Light display on the south portion of the CP Rail overpass at Yonge Street, subject to the terms and conditions set out in this report, and in form acceptable to the City Solicitor; and
2. Council authorize the General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism to execute such future agreements with CP Rail respecting a Cavalcade of Lights display at this location, provided the terms and conditions of the agreements are substantially consistent with the 2007 agreement.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Summary

This report recommends that Council authorize the General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism to enter into a Temporary Use Agreement (Agreement) for 2007 and beyond with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company (CP Rail) to permit use of their property for a Cavalcade of Lights display. The display will occupy the south portion of the CP Rail overpass at Yonge Street within the Rosedale Main Street BIA. A new agreement is required as the BIA is proposing enhancements to the 2006 display.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.9

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4026.pdf>

ED5.10	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: All
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Examination of Winterlicious and Summerlicious Program Criteria and Process

(May 10, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends that:

1. the current guest cheque average not be altered in order to maintain the criteria of the program;
2. staff amend the current criteria to include fine dining chains in the program if the restaurant meets the program criteria;
3. staff develop and put forward an enhancement request in the 2008 operating budget for an additional culinary program to encourage participation of more dining establishments; and
4. staff be directed to initiate discussions with Tourism Toronto or the Ontario Restaurant Hotel & Motel Association (ORHMA) regarding the long-term strategy for the Summerlicious and Winterlicious program.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report at this time.

There could be financial implications resulting from the creation of an additional program including staff resources and funding.

Summary

This report addresses Minute ED3.2 from the April 11, 2007 Economic Development Committee meeting.

Staff reviewed the process used to implement the Summerlicious and Winterlicious programs, specifically:

- a. a reduction to the guest cheque average;
- b. the development of a program to address Toronto-based restaurant chains;
- c. the City of Toronto's costs for the Winterlicious and Summerlicious Program; and

- d. the communication plan for additional culinary experience program, including additional culinary programs that could encourage more Toronto dining establishments to participate in a City of Toronto sponsored program.

City staff convened a consultation session with Tourism Toronto and a number of restaurant industry representatives, including the speakers who raised the issues addressed in the motion.

Toronto Special Events is amending the current criteria to include fine dining chains in the program, if the restaurants meet the criteria. The current guest cheque average will not be altered to maintain the criteria of the program, and staff will develop an additional culinary program through an enhancement request in the 2008 operating budget.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.10

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4027.pdf>

ED5.11	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: 19
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Intention to Designate the Dundas-Bathurst Business Improvement Area (BIA)

(May 16, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends that:

1. the area described by Attachment No. 1 (Maps 1 and 2), be designated as a Business Improvement Area (BIA), under Chapter 19 of the Toronto Municipal Code;
2. the City Clerk be authorized and directed to send out a notice of Council's intention to pass a by-law designating the area, as defined in Attachment No. 1 (Maps 1 and 2), as a Business Improvement Area (BIA), in accordance with Chapter 19 of the Toronto Municipal Code;
3. the Executive Director of Technical Services be requested to prepare designation by-law maps of the area, as described by Attachment No. 1 (Maps 1 and 2), and submit them to the City Solicitor; and
4. subject to the General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism reporting favourably on the results of the poll referred to in Recommendation No. (2), and upon receipt of the maps referred to in Recommendation No. (3), the City Solicitor be directed to prepare a by-law designating the area, as described by Attachment No. 1 (Maps 1 and 2), as a Business Improvement Area (BIA) in accordance with Chapter 19 of the Toronto Municipal Code.

Financial Impact

The proposed Dundas-Bathurst Business Improvement Area (BIA) is one of four potential new BIAs to be established in 2007.

Capital budgets may be impacted in future years should streetscape or other capital improvements be undertaken by the Dundas-Bathurst BIA. These capital improvements are cost-shared equally between the BIA and the City.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the City Clerk conduct a poll to determine if there is sufficient support to designate the Dundas-Bathurst area as a Business Improvement Area (BIA).

Upon the completion of the poll, the General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism report on the results to Council. Subject to a positive poll result, staff shall prepare the necessary by-laws and bills to give effect thereto.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.11

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4028.pdf>

2007-06-07-ed05-5.11.attach

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4029.pdf>

ED5.12	ACTION			Ward: All
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Strip Plazas as Business Improvement Areas to Improve Private Property

(May 22, 2007) report from the City Solicitor.

Recommendations

The City Solicitor recommends that:

1. Municipal Code Chapter 19, Business Improvement Areas, not be amended to allow for the creation of Special Policy Areas consisting of strip plazas.

Financial Impact

The recommendations in this report will have no financial impact.

Summary

The City Solicitor has been asked to determine what amendments are required to Municipal Code Chapter 19, Business Improvement Areas, in order to establish “Special Policy Areas” in relation to privately-owned strip plazas.

Further, the improvement of private property and the operation of what is essentially a property management service are likely not municipal services that can be delegated to a City board. The proposal also likely conflicts with property standards legislation under the BCA and would be deemed to be without effect, if challenged, pursuant to section 11 of COTA.

While property standards legislation is currently the best way to deal with derelict strip plazas, it may be possible to designate them as Community Improvement Project Areas in the future, however, more analysis and research is required to determine if this is appropriate.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.12

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4030.pdf>

ED5.13	ACTION		Transactional	Ward: All
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Recreational Vehicle (RV) Tourism: Options and Opportunities for Toronto

(May 22, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Recommendations

The General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends that:

1. this report be tabled for discussion.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Summary

This report reviews options and opportunities to enhance urban recreational vehicle (RV) tourism, as well as to attract RV rallies to Toronto.

There are nine RV-friendly campgrounds/parks within one-hour drive of Toronto, one of which – Glen Rouge Campground - is located within the City. All current facilities operate at close to capacity during peak season, and none offer the level of amenity desired by the upscale RV market.

RVing is a growing tourist market in both the U.S. and Canada. RVers have high income levels, travel extensively, and are willing to spend significant amounts of money on attractions, entertainment and shopping on their vacations.

Background Information

2007-06-07-ed05-5.13

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-4031.pdf>