

Economic Development Committee

Meeting No.	2	Contact	Rosalind Dyers, Committee Administrator
Meeting Date	Wednesday, February 21, 2007	Phone	416-392-8018
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	rdyers@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall		

The Decision Document is for preliminary reference purposes only. Please refer to the Minutes for the official record.

How to Read the Decision Document:

- *recommendations of the Committee to City Council appear after the item heading and any amendments by Committee to recommendations appearing in a staff report are italicized;*
- *action taken by the Committee on its own authority does not require Council's approval and is listed in the decision document under the heading "Decision Advice and Other Information" at the end of the item;*
- *Declarations of Interest, if any, appear at the end of an item.*

Minutes Confirmed – Meeting of January 24, 2007, subject to amending Minute No. ED1.4 to provide that the following motion by Councillor Thompson be adopted:

"That the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism report to the Economic Development Committee on:

1. *a list of tools under the new City of Toronto Act with respect to business and tax incentives which can be implemented to encourage businesses to relocate or to retain businesses;*
2. *the plans and opportunities that could be implemented in the 13 priority neighbourhoods, i.e., to encourage new businesses to locate in those neighbourhoods; and*
3. *how creative and community hubs can be formulated within those challenged areas so as to impact the lives of the residents residing in such neighbourhoods."*

ED2.1	Presentation	Received	Transactional	
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Presentation - The Case for Investment in the Arts

Summary

Presentation on “The Case for Investment in the Arts” by Greg Reed, Board Member of Business for the Arts and President and Chief Executive Officer, Dundee Bank of Canada.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Economic Development Committee received the presentation and expressed its appreciation to Mr. Reed.

ED2.2	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	Wards: 12
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2007 Business Improvement Area Operating Budgets: Report No. 2

(February 1, 2007) report from the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer.

Committee Recommendations

The Economic Development Committee recommends that:

1. the City Council adopt and certify the 2007 expenditure requests and levy requirements of the following Business Improvement Areas:

Business Improvement Area	2007 Expenditure Estimates (\$)	2007 Levy Funds Required (\$)
Chinatown	179,499	174,499
Eglinton Hill	14,747	11,406
Harbord Street	13,374	9,059

2. authority be granted for the introduction of the necessary bill in Council; and
3. the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

No City funding is required since Business Improvement Area budgets are raised by a special levy on members. Approval of the three recommended BIA budgets in this report will generate \$194,964 for the respective BIAs.

All of the 2007 BIA operating budgets submitted for consideration are balanced budgets. The appeal provision surplus or appeal provision deficit for each individual BIA, as

determined by the Revenue Services Division, has been addressed by each BIA and incorporated into their 2007 Operating Budget. The BIA budgets have provided for required capital cost-sharing contributions for those projects approved in 2006 or prior and carried forward into 2007, as well as new capital cost-share projects proposed in the 2007 Capital Budget for Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Summary

This report brings forward Business Improvement Area (BIA) annual operating budgets for approval by Council as required by the City of Toronto Act, 2006. Council approval is required to permit the City to collect funds through the tax levy on behalf of the BIAs.

Complete budgets and supporting documentation received to-date have been reviewed and are reported herein; BIA budgets received after this date will be brought forward in later reports. Of the 60 established BIAs, 52 BIA budgets will be before City Council for approval on February 5 and 6, 2007; three BIA budgets are submitted for approval in this report; and five BIAs have yet to submit its 2007 operating budget, as referred to in Appendix B.

The recommendations reflect 2007 approved budgets for BIAs and have been reviewed by staff to ensure BIA budgets reflect Council's approved policies and practices.

Background Information

2007-02-21-ed02-2-report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1568.pdf>)

ED2.3	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	Wards: 14
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Roncesvalles Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) Poll Results on Boundary Expansion

(January 26, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Committee Recommendations

The Economic Development Committee recommends that:

1. Council pass a by-law to designate the area described by Attachment No. 1, as an expanded Business Improvement Area, under Sections 204 and 209 of the Municipal Act, 2001, based upon the results of the poll respecting the intention to expand the Roncesvalles Village Business Improvement Area (BIA).
2. leave be granted for the introduction of the necessary bill in Council to give effect thereto; and
3. the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

Capital budgets may be impacted in future years should streetscape or other capital improvements be undertaken by the expanded Roncesvalles Village Business Improvement Area (BIA). These capital improvements are cost-shared equally between the BIA and the City. A supplemental Roncesvalles Village BIA 2007 operating budget, reflecting the expanded BIA boundaries, will be brought forward for approval at a later date.

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 Roncesvalles Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) boundaries be expanded. Upon approval, the appropriate staff shall prepare the necessary by-laws and bill to give effect thereto.

In accordance with the Municipal Act requirements, the City Clerk conducted a poll to determine if an expansion is warranted.

The number of objecting petitions regarding the proposed Roncesvalles Village BIA expansion does not meet the sufficiency benchmark required by Section 210 (3) of the Municipal Act, 2001, and accordingly, the City may expand the boundaries. Based upon the results, it is recommended that Council pass a by-law to designate the area described by Attachment No. 1 (Maps 1-4), as an expanded Roncesvalles Village Business Improvement Area, under Sections 204 and 209 of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Background Information

2007-02-21-ed-02-3a-attach

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1574.pdf>

2007-02-21-ed-02-3-report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1572.pdf>

Communications

(February 21, 2007) memo from Stan Ferus, Owner of 115 Roncesvalles Avenue - EDMainED2.3.1

ED2.4	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	Wards: 15
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York Eglinton Business Improvement Area (BIA) Poll Results on New Boundary and the Creation of a New BIA

(January 29, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Committee Recommendations

The Economic Development Committee recommends that:

1. based on the results of the City Clerk's poll to change the western boundary of the York Eglinton BIA, Council pass a by-law to designate Dufferin Street as the western BIA boundary for the York Eglinton BIA (see Attachment No. 1);
2. based on the results of the City Clerk's poll respecting the intention to designate the area within the current York Eglinton BIA boundaries west of Dufferin Street as a new BIA, Council pass a by-law to designate this area as a new Business Improvement Area (see Attachment No. 2);
3. the assets and liabilities of the current York Eglinton BIA as identified in their December 31, 2006 audited financial statements be divided between the new unnamed BIA and the newly configured York Eglinton BIA based on their respective total assessed value of the business class properties used to calculate the 2006 BIA levy;
4. all current capital/fixed street assets shall be divided between the new unnamed BIA and the newly configured York Eglinton BIA based on the current location of the fixed assets;
5. an overseer be appointed by the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer to monitor and allocate the expenditures according to derived benefits received by the York Eglinton BIA and the new BIA from January 1, 2007, until the new BIA board of management is approved by Council and operating, and until the current York Eglinton BIA assets and liabilities have been divided and a portion transferred to the new BIA;
6. City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 19, Business Improvement Areas, be amended as necessary to reflect the change in boundary of the York Eglinton BIA;
7. Council approve the application of Sections 204 to 215, both inclusive, of the Municipal Act, 2001 to the creation and operation of this and any other new BIAs and their boards of management, until Council adopts a new set of policies and procedures for BIAs;
8. leave be granted for the introduction of the necessary bills in Council to give effect thereto; and
9. the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

There are no additional financial impacts for the recommendations included in this report. However, there are now two BIAs instead of one covering the same area.

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

Summary

To report on and make recommendations regarding the poll results for the proposed revised western boundary for the York Eglinton Business Improvement Area (BIA), and for the creation of a new BIA on lands within the current York Eglinton BIA.

Background Information

2007-02-21-ed02-4-attach2

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1577.pdf>)

2007-02-21-ed02-4-attach1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1576.pdf>)

2007-02-21-ed02-4-report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1575.pdf>)

ED2.5	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	Wards: All
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Design Exchange (DX) 2007 Annual Grant Review

(February 5, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Committee Recommendations

The Economic Development Committee recommends that:

1. Council commend the Design Exchange (DX) for its work in the promotion of design as a strategic tool for business innovation in the City of Toronto;
2. Council approve the Design Exchange's 2007 grant of \$500,000 plus accrued interest as per the terms of the City's grant agreement with the Design Exchange subject to 2007 operating budget approval;
3. Council authorize City staff to execute a six-year renewal of the grant agreement which expires on July 31, 2007, with the Group for the Creation of a Design Centre in Toronto known as the "Design Exchange" (DX), advising that the purpose of this agreement is to continue developing and promoting design as a strategic tool for business investment, subject to the satisfaction of the General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, and the City Solicitor; and
4. Council request Economic Development staff work with the DX during 2007 to address the issue of sustainability, review the DX mandate and activities with input from funders and key industry stakeholders including the industry

associations, and resolve outstanding heritage preservation issues with the developer.

Financial Impact

As a result of the commercial development on the DX site the City receives \$500,000 per year from the property owner/developer, which is placed in reserve fund XR3020 to pay the DX grant. At the present time reserve fund XR3020 has sufficient funds to pay the DX grant. The grant amount is included in the EDCT 2007 operating budget recommended by the administrative review to the Budget Committee.

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

Summary

This report presents recommendations that Council commend the Design Exchange (DX) for its work, approve the 2007 grant and authorize staff to negotiate a renewal of the City's grant agreement with the DX which expires July 31, 2007.

The DX is projecting a surplus before amortization of approximately \$201,400 for the year 2006, as compared to a budgeted surplus of \$152,646. Costs have been controlled, debt is being eliminated and a new revenue strategy is in place. The DX expects to generate a net operating surplus before amortization of capital assets of \$150,153 in 2007.

A development agreement with the TD Centre requires the developer to pay \$500,000 per year to the City until 2013 for the purpose of running a design showcase/centre on the site of the former stock exchange. These funds are placed in a reserve fund to pay the DX grant, which is revenue neutral to the City.

Background Information

2007-02-21-ed02-5-report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1581.pdf>

ED2.6	Information	Deferred	Transactional	Wards: All
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Review of Winterlicious and Summerlicious Program Criteria

(February 1, 2007) report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Summary

This report addresses two notices of motion pertaining to the Winterlicious and Summerlicious restaurant promotions: the participation of restaurants in the Scarborough area and a review of opportunities for inclusion of restaurants that meet the Council-approved criteria but have multiple venues.

The two motions were considered by staff in consultation with Ontario Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Association (OHMRA) and the processes were reviewed. In order to sustain the integrity of the programs the current criteria and process must be maintained.

All restaurants in all Wards of Toronto that meet the Winterlicious and Summerlicious criteria are invited to participate in the promotion. Restaurants wishing to be considered for the program should consult with the three rating publications used to determine program participation to find out how they might have their restaurant reviewed and/or receive a higher rating.

The program criteria also designates that participating restaurants must offer a unique dining experience. Multi-venue restaurants are permitted to participate, however restaurants that are part of a branded chain, offering the same menu, the same atmosphere and the same experience at each of the chain locations, are not eligible for participation in the program.

Staff will continue to consult and seek advice from the OHMRA and provide an online information page for restaurants to review to learn more about the criteria and how to be included.

Background Information

2007-02-21-ed02-6-report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1583.pdf>)

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Economic Development Committee deferred consideration of the report from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism to its next meeting on April 12, 2007, for public presentations and debate.

ED2.7	Information	Amended	Transactional	
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Appointments to the EDCT Program Review Council Advisory Group

(February 12, 2007) memo from the General Manager, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Summary

EDCT staff are undertaking a Program Review of the EDCT Division over the next number of months.

Staff are requesting three members of the Economic Development Committee to be appointed to an EDCT Program Review Council Advisory Group to provide staff with periodic input two or three times throughout the review process. The proposed roles of this group are attached.

It is anticipated that the first meeting of this group will be later this month.

Background Information

2007-02-21-ed02.7.attach

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1741.pdf>)

2007-02-21-ed02-7.memo

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/ed/bgrd/backgroundfile-1740.pdf>)

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Economic Development Committee appointed Councillor Kyle Rae, Chair, and Councillors Suzan Hall and Case Ootes to the EDCT Program Review Council Advisory Group.

Meeting Sessions

Session Date	Session Type	Start Time	End Time	Public or Closed Session
2007-02-21	Morning	9:35 AM	11:20 AM	Public