
Budget Committee

Meeting No.	28	Contact	Merle MacDonald, Committee Administrator
Meeting Date	Thursday, March 6, 2008	Phone	416-392-7340
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	buc@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 2, City Hall		

Budget Committee		
Councillor Shelley Carroll (Chair)	Councillor A. A. Heaps	Councillor Gord Perks
Councillor Paul Ainslie (Vice-Chair)	Councillor Joe Mihevc	Councillor Kyle Rae
Councillor Maria Augimeri		

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Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

Communications/Reports

BU28.1	ACTION			Ward: All
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2008 Budget Committee Recommended Operating Budget

(February 28, 2008) Report from Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer

Summary

Advising that the 2008 Budget Committee Recommended Operating Budget report will be on the Supplementary Agenda for the Budget Committee meeting of March 6, 2008.

Background Information

2008 Budget Committee Recommended Operating Budget (Feb. 28, 2008)
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-11380.pdf>)

CORPORATE

1a Preliminary Operating Variance Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2007

(February 28, 2008) Report from Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer

Summary

Advising that the Preliminary Operating Variance Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2007 will be on the Supplementary Agenda for the Budget Committee meeting of March 6, 2008.

Background Information

Preliminary Operating Variance Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2007 (Feb. 28, 2008)
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-11381.pdf>)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, CULTURE AND TOURISM

1b Coordinated Street Furniture Program: Funding for Tourist Information Component

(February 26, 2008) Report from Executive Director, Tourism Section Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Division

Recommendations

1. That the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism 2008 Operating Budget be increased by \$0.300 million gross, zero net, funded by \$0.300 million from the Public Realm Reserve Fund, to develop the tourist information system and wayfinding content of the info pillar component of the Co-ordinated Street Furniture Program.

2. The General Manager of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism report to Budget Committee by the Summer of 2008 on the multi-year plan and associated funding required to develop and sustain the information content system to provide tourist information and wayfinding signage for the Information pillar element of the Coordinated Street Furniture Program.

Financial Impact

The Economic Development, Culture and Tourism 2008 Recommended Operating Budget would be increased by \$0.300 million gross and \$0 net by these recommendations.

At its meeting on December 11, 12 and 13, 2007, Council adopted report entitled, "Coordinated Street Furniture Program - Revenues; and Establishment of a New 'Public Realm' Reserve Fund" and referred the following recommendation to the 2008 Operating Budget process -- "that the development and maintenance of tourist information and wayfinding signage strategies in connection with the info pillar element of the Street Furniture Program receive up to \$300,000 in 2008 from the Public Realm Reserve Fund" subject to the Executive Director, Tourism, submitting a business case.

This report recommends that the \$300,000 allocated for 2008 be used for contracted services to deliver the roll-out of the interim solution for the information system in 2008 (estimated \$5,000), and to develop the full information system that will be implemented in 2009 (estimated \$295,000).

Once consultations with other City divisions and Astral Media concerning the details of this project is completed in the first half of 2008, a further report to Budget Committee will provide a recommended approach to the roll-out and sustainment of the tourist information and wayfinding signage system and the requirements for 2009 and 2010 funding from the Public Realm Reserve Fund.

Summary

This report recommends that the 2008 Operating Budget include the transfer of \$300,000 from the "public realm reserve fund" to the 2008 Recommended Operating Budget for Economic Development, Culture and Tourism to support the development of the content for the 120 info pillars which are planned as part of the coordinated street furniture program.

The installation of the pillars and the content they will deliver will partially address a long articulated need for improved information systems in Toronto for visitors. The need to improve tourist information systems is among the priority recommendations to emerge from the recently completed industry-led "Premier Ranked Tourist Destination" project scheduled to come before the Economic Development Committee in April 2008. Tourism information development also supports the recommendations of "The Prosperity Agenda".

This opportunity to improve the City's delivery of tourism and wayfinding information services to pedestrians comes about as a result of the "Coordinated Street Furniture Program". The capital infrastructure and maintenance requirements of the Program are included within the terms of the Agreement between the City and Astral Media. This report deals only with the information content to be provided by the pillars.

Background Information

Coordinated Street Furniture Program: Funding for Tourist Information Component
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-11376.pdf>)

WATERFRONT SECRETARIAT

1c Staff Resources for the Waterfront Secretariat

(February 28, 2008) Report from Deputy City Manager Richard Butts

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The 2008 Capital Budget for Waterfront Revitalization as approved by Council in December 2007 be amended to reflect an increase of \$150,000.00 to the Waterfront Secretariat sub-project, and a decrease of \$150,000.00 to the Financial Securities sub-project, with no net impact on the overall total of \$51,131,046.00.
2. The 2008 Recommended Operating Budget for the Waterfront Secretariat of \$1,412,615.06 (gross)/\$1,081,615.06 (net) be amended to reflect an increase of \$150,000.00 (gross) in salary costs, and an increase of \$150,000.00 in the recoveries from the Capital Program for Waterfront Revitalization, with no net impact.
3. The number of Approved Positions for the Waterfront Secretariat, recommended for 2008 at the level of 9.0, be increased by 2.0 to 11.0 to reflect the hiring of two temporary Technical Co-ordinator positions to be funded from the Capital Program as outlined in Recommendations 1 and 2 above.
4. The appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary actions to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

The recommendations in this report will permit the Waterfront Secretariat to hire two additional temporary Technical Co-ordinators as of May 1, 2008, to be funded from the Waterfront Capital Program.

The Waterfront Capital Program as approved by Council in December 2007 will be adjusted by transferring \$150,000.00 from the Financial Securities sub-project to the Waterfront Secretariat sub-project, with no net impact on the overall total of \$51,131,046.00.

The 2008 Recommended Operating Budget for the Waterfront Secretariat of \$1,412,615.06 (gross)/\$1,081,615.06 (net) will be amended to reflect an increase of \$150,000.00 (gross) in salary costs, and an increase of \$150,000.00 in the recoveries from the Waterfront Capital Program, with no net impact. The fully annualized costs for these positions are estimated at approximately \$225,000.00.

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

Summary

With the Waterfront Revitalization Initiative progressing rapidly through implementation, the focus of City and Waterfront Toronto staff has shifted from planning initiatives and the management of smaller, individual projects to the development of entire precincts, each of which consists of numerous projects, involving a number of public and private stakeholders and the large amounts of public lands. Managing the complex issues and approval requirements associated with these initiatives had significantly escalated the work load of the Waterfront Secretariat. To address this capacity issue, the Waterfront Project Director is requesting authority to hire an additional two temporary Technical Co-ordinator positions as of May 1, 2008, to be funded through the Waterfront Capital Program, with no impact on the City's Operating Budget. These positions will focus on expediting implementation of East Bayfront, West Don Lands and Port Lands, as well as various financial matters.

The total costs are expected to approximate \$150,000.00 for 2008, and \$225,000.00 on a fully annualized basis.

Background Information

Staffing Resources for the Waterfront Secretariat

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-11377.pdf>)

BU28.2	ACTION			Ward: All
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Preliminary Capital Variance Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2007

(February 28, 2008) Report from Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer

Summary

Advising that the Preliminary Capital Variance Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2007 will be on the Supplementary Agenda for the Budget Committee meeting of March 6, 2008.

Background Information

Preliminary Capital Variance Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2007 (Feb. 28, 2008)

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-11382.pdf>)

BU28.3	Information			Ward: All
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Preliminary Reserves and Reserve Funds Variance Report – December 31, 2007

(February 29, 2008) Report from Treasurer

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications contained in this report.

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 provide preliminary information on reserve and reserve fund balances as at December 31, 2007, and activity in reserves and reserve funds during the year then ended.

The reserves and reserve funds balances at December 31st, 2007 total \$2.4 billion (\$1.7 billion – December 31, 2006) and were projected to decline by \$261.4 million during the year resulting in a year-end balance of \$1.4 billion. The planned use of reserves and reserve funds in 2007 continues the trend in recent years to draw (on a net basis) from existing reserves and reserve funds to finance capital and operating expenditures.

The major reason for the increase in the reserve funds balance was the delay/deferral of capital spending from 2007 to 2008 and the receipt of \$499.4 million in Provincial and Federal funding to support the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), which was credited to five newly created TTC reserve funds (Canadian Strategic Infrastructure, Public Transit Capital Trust, Ontario Bus Replacement Program, Transit Technology Infrastructure Program, Ontario Rolling Stock Infrastructure).

The vast majority of these funds have been committed to fund capital projects and future known liabilities, leaving minimal amounts for discretionary spending.

Background Information

Preliminary Reserves and Reserve Funds Variance Report - December 31, 2007

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-11383.pdf>

Appendix A, B, C

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-11384.pdf>