

Community Safety Investment Program (CSI) 2010 Allocations Recommendations Report

Date:	June 9, 2010
To:	Community Development and Recreation Committee
From:	Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This report presents the recommendations for the organizations that applied for municipal support under the 2010 Community Safety Investment program. Of the 74 applicants, 23 are recommended for funding totalling \$671,860.00. An amount of \$25,000.00 has been held for appeals.

The Community Safety Investment program enables a variety of community organizations to participate in making a safe city safer by providing education and prevention activities, building community capacity, reaching vulnerable groups, addressing systemic issues and developing effective models of community-based service. The 2010 recommendations provide communities with important opportunities to address their priority prevention issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration Division recommends that:

1. City Council approve the 2010 CSI allocations totalling \$671,860.00 for 23 projects, as recommended in Appendices A and B, and an amount of \$25,000.00 be held for appeals;
2. this report be forwarded to the Community Partnership and Appeals Subcommittee meeting of June 29, 2010 for the purpose of hearing appeals; and

3. the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration submit a report on the Community Safety Investment Program (CSI) – 2010 Appeal Allocation Recommendations directly to the July 6th City Council meeting for its consideration.

Financial Impact

This report recommends that the Community Partnership and Investment Program (CPIP)'s 2010 Approved Operating Budget for the Community Safety Investment program of \$696,860.00 be allocated as per Appendices A and B, \$671,860.00 to 23 organizations and \$25,000.00 set aside for appeal purposes.

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

DECISION HISTORY

The Community Safety Investment (CSI) program supports not-for-profit organizations across the City of Toronto for community-based project activities that increase community safety and prevent violence. The funding is provided under the general authority for making municipal grants provided in Section 83 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* (S.O. 2006, c.11).

Each year, organizations apply for project funding for new projects or to continue a project approved on the basis of a two or three year project plan.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The recommended allocations under the 2010 Community Safety Investment program support community-based activities that fit within the criteria of the funding program. The CSI program makes resources available to organizations that are in a unique position to reach vulnerable communities with information, prevention activities, and responses that reduce violence and increase safety for the most vulnerable groups in Toronto.

COMMENTS

2010 CSI Mission, Priorities and Goals:

The mission of the Community Safety Investment (CSI) program is to create safe communities for people in Toronto. CSI's two primary goals are to increase access for communities to information, skills and supports that prevent violence and increase safety, and to increase the capacity of communities to address systemic causes of violence.

The CSI recognizes that not everyone is equally affected by violence. The experiences and perceptions of safety vary for individuals and communities, depending on age, gender, income levels, race, access to information, available resources and a variety of other circumstances. Communities have a range of different assets and different structural issues to address. In order to ensure that the CSI projects will have a significant impact, funding is directed to vulnerable communities.

CSI allocations give priority to projects addressing the safety and violence prevention needs of:

- Children and youth
- Women and girls
- People with disabilities
- Seniors
- Aboriginal community
- Neighbourhoods
- Immigrants and refugees
- Gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender/transsexual community.

Each year, CSI applications are reviewed in the context of emerging issues and strategic directions for the City of Toronto. An emerging issue since 2009 has been the need to build neighbourhood capacity for community crisis response. A total of \$63,660.00 is recommended for 2 projects that address this issue.

2010 CSI Outreach and Support:

Organizations were able to access a variety of supports to prepare a CSI application. Three information sessions were held to provide applicants with an overview of the program, information on priorities, lists of projects funded in the past and information on preparing an application. Two workshops were organized to help applicants prepare the logic model workplan which is required as part of the CSI application. Agency Review Officers were available by telephone to address agency-specific questions and provide technical support related to criterion clarification.

Applications for the 2010 process were available through the City of Toronto web-site at toronto.ca/grants/csi. Organizations have approximately seven weeks to submit the CSI application package. Notices were emailed to organizations during the first week of January 2010 to inform them of the availability of the applications. The web-site provides the full application package including fact sheets, organization self-assessment forms, application forms, guidelines, contact information and lists of previously funded projects. Most organizations used the web site to access the applications package: fourteen organizations requested email and two requested packages through the mail. 2010 CSI applications were due on February 23, 2010. Applications were accepted by hand delivery at City Hall and by mail postmarked by the deadline.

2010 Applications and Allocations Overview:

A total of 74 applications were received for the 2010 CSI requesting a total of \$2,796,909.23, 4 times the CSI approved budget of \$696,860.00.

The assessment process for each applicant includes a review of documents such as project descriptions and data, project logic model work plans, evaluation plans, financial statements, organization by-laws, letters patent and audited financial statement to assess the capacity of the applicant to undertake the proposed work. The review of this information works to determine the fit of the project proposal with the CSI goals, priorities and criteria. The review of applications included contact with applicants for additional information and site visits if needed, consideration of other community resources and programs, and consultation with other services and funding providers.

Applicants are identified as ineligible if they: submit late applications; are in default with the City of Toronto because of a failure to meet the terms and conditions of any previous City of Toronto funding; fail to meet one or more of the CSI organizational eligibility criteria; or if the application submitted is so incomplete that eligibility cannot be assessed. A total of 55 new, 3 returning and 16 reapplying multi-year applications were submitted to the 2010 CSI. Of these, 2 returning applicants submitted their proposal after the CSI deadline. To ensure the fair treatment of those organizations that met the application deadline, the 2 late applications are not recommended for funding. One new application was substantially incomplete and could not be included in the review due to insufficient information.

In 2010, 55 applications are from new organizations that had not received funding in 2009, of which 9 new projects are recommended for funding. The average funding recommendation size has increased to \$29,211.30 (2009: \$27,683.00) and the overall number of recommended projects is 23 (2009: 24). In 2010, two organizations are recommended for one-year projects (2009: 4) and 21 (2009: 20) are for multi-year projects.

The increasing number of multi-year projects, which allocates a portion of the CSI annual budget to support previously funded projects, has allowed for longer term planning, stable project budgets, and stronger projects at the community level. Fourteen projects, 60% of the total, will be coming to an end in 2011.

2010 Recommendations Overview:

The allocation recommendations for 2010 are included in Appendix A, which lists all applicants and their requested project amounts. Detailed information on individual applicants and the proposed project is included in the summary sheets in Appendix B. Appendix C provides a project description for all recommended applicants. Applicants have been notified of the recommended allocation and have been informed about the appeal process.

Factors considered in the development of the 2010 CSI funding recommendations include: the need to support projects in various parts of the city, addressing emerging

violence issues, reflecting the diversity of CSI priority communities, and responding to the range of projects and organizations requesting support.

In 2010, the CSI budget was increased by 2% to address ongoing issues of rising costs for program delivery in the community services sector. This 2% funding level adjustment has been applied to returning multi-year projects and is not dependent on an organization's requested amount.

As directed by Council, CSI has given priority for funding to violence prevention projects for youth in the 13 priority neighbourhoods of Crescent Town, Dorset Park, Eglinton East-Kennedy Park, Flemingdon Park-O'Connor, Jamestown, Jane/Finch, Kingston/Galloway, Lawrence Heights, Malvern, Scarborough Village, Steeles-L'Amoreaux, Westminster-Branson and Weston-Mount Dennis. Seven recommendations are for youth projects in these neighbourhoods, for a total of \$211,953.20.

Allocation summary:

Status with the CSI program:

Number of new applicants:	55	New applicants recommended:	8
Number of re-applying applicants:	3	Re-applying applicants recommended:	1
Number of returning applicants:	16	Returning applicants recommended:	14

Recommended projects by priority:

Children and youth:	10
Women and girls:	6
Seniors:	1
Neighbourhoods:	2
Immigrants and refugees:	2
Gay/Lesbian/bisexual/transgender/transsexual community:	1
People with disabilities:	1

Recommended projects by timeline:

Year 1 of 1	2
Year 1 of 2	4
Year 1 of 3	3
Year 2 of 2	4
Year 2 of 3	2
Year 3 of 3	8

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: Community Safety Investment Program 2010 Recommendations
Appendix B: Detailed Organization Recommendations – Summary Sheets
Appendix C: Descriptions of 2010 Recommended Projects