



STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

Toronto Police Service: Transit Policing in 2010

Date:	June 3, 2010
To:	Executive Committee, City of Toronto
From:	Alok Mukherjee, Chair, Toronto Police Services Board
Wards:	All

SUMMARY

At its meeting on May 28, 2010, the City of Toronto – Budget Committee requested the Toronto Police Service to report to the Executive Committee on the issue of TTC Special Constables (Member Motion Regarding the TTC 2010 Operating Budget – BU72.11). The purpose of this report is to provide the Executive Committee with the requested information.

City Council approved the Toronto Police Service's 2010 operating budget at a net amount of \$888.1M. Included in the 2010 approved budget is an increase of 80 officers to the uniform officer authorized strength for transit policing. Part year funding for 42 officers is included in the 2010 approved operating budget. The remaining 38 officers are funded through the Police Officer Recruitment Fund (PORF) grant which expires on March 31, 2013.

The Chief of Police has indicated that 80 officers is an appropriate number to efficiently and effectively police the transit system.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact in 2010, beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget for the Toronto Police Service. However, there will be an incremental impact of \$1.9M in 2011 (for a total annualized cost of \$3.7M in 2011) for the 42 additional officers, as only part-year funding (\$1.8M) for 42 officers has been included in the 2010 budget. Furthermore, PORF funding in the amount of \$2.7M is committed only until March 31, 2013, at which time additional funding will be required in the Service's operating budget if the PORF grant is not extended.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Over a year ago, the Toronto Police Service and the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) entered into discussions with respect to roles and responsibilities for public safety and security on the transit system. As a result of those discussions, the City-approved 2010 operating budget for the Service included an increase of \$1.8M to fund the equivalent of forty-two (42) officers to effectively replace a significant portion of the TTC security complement.

COMMENTS

This issue was discussed at the Toronto Police Services Board meeting of March 9, 2010. At that time, the Chief of Police indicated that 80 officers is an appropriate number to efficiently and effectively police the transit system. As a result, the Board approved an increase of 80 additional uniform positions required for public transit policing, for a revised uniform establishment of 5,588 for the Toronto Police Service.

The \$1.8M funding increase recommended by the City provides sufficient funding to hire an additional 42 officers in the August 2010 recruit class. The cost for these 42 officers will annualize to \$3.7M in 2011, and will increase as the officers progress through the ranks until they attain the rank of first class Police Constable (PC1).

The remaining 38 officers are currently funded through PORF, although PORF funding is only available until March 31, 2013. Efforts are being made by the provincial government to secure this funding from the federal government in perpetuity. However, if the grant is not renewed, the Service will be faced with an annualized pressure of \$2.7M.

Memorandum of Agreement with the TTC (Special Constables)

A Memorandum of Agreement empowering the TTC Special Constables was entered into between the Toronto Police Services Board and the TTC on May 9, 1997. Subsequently, on May 6, 2010, pursuant to the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement, the Board sent a letter to the TTC notifying them of the Board's intent to terminate the current agreement effective upon the parties completing a new agreement. The TTC were requested to supply the Board with their requirements for their Special Constable program by June 25, 2010. Upon receipt of this information the Service will review and make the necessary adjustments to ensure policing needs are met. This new information will be placed into a proposed framework for the new Memorandum of Agreement and further discussion will ensue between the TTC and the Toronto Police Service to arrive at a new agreement and continuing the longstanding partnership between the two organizations to ensure public safety on the transit system.

Conclusion

Through a series of meetings, the TTC and the TPS have agreed on their respective roles and responsibilities regarding the performance of public safety and security activities on the transit system. As a result of the TTC's responsibilities under the proposed framework, the need for TTC security staff to have special constable status to perform their various security and enforcement activities is eliminated.

CONTACT

Joanne Campbell
Executive Director
Toronto Police Services Board
Telephone No. 416-808-8081
Fax No. 416-808-8082

Alok Mukherjee
Chair, Toronto Police Services Board

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