



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Additional Funding for Built Environment and Health Project

Date:	December 21, 2009
To:	Board of Health
From:	Medical Officer of Health
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of Health about additional funding to be allocated to Toronto Public Health (TPH) for participation in a partnership with a pan-Canadian group of agencies on the Built Environment and Health initiative. This report also seeks City Council approval for a one-time budget adjustment to the TPH 2010 Operating Budget for the 100 percent funding provided by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada.

The initiative is funded through Coalitions Linking Action and Science for Prevention (CLASP), overseen by the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC). In November 2009, CLASP, through the lead agency, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada awarded funding of \$199.0 to TPH to hire a Project Co-ordinator. Since then, the Heart and Stroke Foundation has committed to provide TPH with additional one-time funding of \$415.0 thousand, covering the period February 2010 to March 2012. The purpose of the additional funding is to enable TPH to enter into Purchase of Service contracts with external experts to implement surveys, and to develop and pilot test a decision-support software tool for use in the land use and transportation planning process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. City Council approve an increase of \$165.0 thousand gross and \$0.0 net to Toronto Public Health's 2010 Operating Budget to reflect confirmed 2010

- funding from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, the lead agency for Coalition Linking Action and Science Prevention (CLASP) funding;
2. City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to award, execute and amend Purchase of Service contracts with Dr. Larry Frank of the University of British Columbia, and Dr. Mary Thompson of the University of Waterloo for research services on the Built Environment and Health Project, and
 3. This report be forwarded to the City Council meeting of January 26, 2010 for approval.

Financial Impact

Funding for the CLASP project will be administered through the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. TPH's previously approved share for the period October 2009 to March 2012 was \$199,932. TPH's new and additional share for the period February 2010 to March 2012 is \$415.0 thousand.

The table below summarizes the annual cash flow for the duration of the project. For 2010, an increase of \$165.0 thousand gross and \$0.0 net is required to Toronto Public Health's 2010 Operating Budget.

CLASP FUNDING 2010 – 2012			
Year	Gross \$	Revenue \$	Net \$
2010	165,000	165,000	0.0
2011	150,000	150,000	0.0
2012	100,000	100,000	0.0
Total	415,000	415,000	0.0

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

ISSUE BACKGROUND

TPH has partnered with planning and health organizations to develop a research and policy implementation project focused on the built environment and health. Other partners involved in this initiative include the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, the Canadian Institute of Planners, Smart Growth BC and the National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy.

TPH and its partners successfully participated in a competitive process to create a grant proposal on the Built Environment and Health in response to a CLASP (Coalitions Linking Action and Science for Prevention) Request for Proposals issued in June 1, 2009 by the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer. The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada is the lead agency recipient awarded the grant and they allocate funding to partnership members such as Toronto Public Health.

In November 2009, the Heart and Stroke Foundation committed to providing TPH with funding of \$199.9 thousand to retain a Project Co-ordinator for 2.5 years. At its meeting of November 30, December 1 to 8 City Council approved an increase of \$25.4 thousand gross and \$0.0 net budget to Toronto Public Health's 2009 Operating Budget covering the period October 2009 to March 2010. The staff report Built Environment and Health Project Funding is available at <http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/cc/decisions/2009-11-30-cc42-dd.htm> (see HL26.7).

COMMENTS

The Canadian Partnership Against Cancer Corporation has awarded the Built Environment and Health Initiative approximately two million dollars over 2.5 years. TPH has already been allocated \$199,932 through the lead partner Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada for its role in the project.

Since then, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada has committed to provide TPH with additional one-time funding of \$415.0 thousand, covering the period February 2010 to March 2012 (see Attachment 1). A condition of the Heart and Stroke Foundation awarding the additional funding to TPH is that TPH enters into Purchase of Service contracts with Dr. Mary Thompson of the University of Waterloo and Dr. Larry Frank of the University of British Columbia. These two experts are uniquely qualified to conduct the work specified in the Built Environment and Health initiative, and their participation in implementing the proposal is a condition of being awarded funding from the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer Corporation. Dr. Mary Thompson and Dr. Larry Frank will implement surveys, and develop and pilot test a decision-support software tool for use in the land use and transportation planning process. These products will enable more sustainable and healthy planning decisions in Toronto and throughout other municipalities in Canada.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Dr. David McKeown
Medical Officer of Health

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Funding Confirmation Letter from Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada