



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**
with Confidential Attachment

**Sony Centre for the Performing Arts – Rigging System
Replacement Project**

Date:	January 27, 2016
To:	The Board of Directors of Sony Centre
From:	Director of Operations, Hummingbird (Sony) Centre for the Performing Arts
Wards:	All
Reason for Confidential Information:	This report involves the security of property belonging to the City or one of its agencies, boards, and commissions.
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Board on the urgent commencement of replacing the stage rigging system, which has been documented four times as dangerous and potentially life threatening.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board of Directors of the Hummingbird (Sony) Centre:

1. Endorse Management’s recommendation to immediately commence with the replacement of the stage rigging system by deferring work for the three non-critical projects and re-allocate debt funding to address the health & safety risks associated with the current rigging system.

2. Request that the City Clerk forward this report to City Council for their consideration at the February 17 & 18, 2016 City Council meetings.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts other than those outlined in the report.

Background

Based on the opinion of a prominent rigging expert (see Confidential Attachment 1) and recommendations on three past Building Condition Assessments (BCA) over several years, Management has moved on the necessity to immediately upgrade/replace the rigging system (broadly known as the “fly” system and associated elements which takes equipment and set pieces in and out over the stage).

The last BCA completed in September 2015 indicates that the rigging system is outdated, not compliant with code requirements and no longer supported by the manufacturer. The report further states the consequences of not replacing the system could lead to injury and/or death.

Timeframe

In order to avoid any business interruption work must happen on a tight schedule:

February 15:	Issue design and build RFP
February 15-29:	RFP submitted and reviewed
March 1:	Award of RFP
April-June:	Permits, Manufacture
July/August:	Construction

This schedule requires that the RFP process begin before Council approves the capital budget. Management will ensure that the RFP document is fully transparent on this issue.

Budget and Funding

The Sony Centre’s 2016 capital budget now before Council has \$5.98 million allocated for 2016. However, the allocation was made prior to receiving the attached confidential opinion. Items prioritized include the following:

- Exterior Wall Rehabilitation (granite facia blocks)
- East Side Plaza Refurbishment (stairways, exits, gardens)
- Port-Cochere Lighting Restoration (historical front entrance canopy lighting)
- Stage Loading Dock Upgrade (motorized lift)
- Exterior Doors replacement.

Based on the BCA and theatre experts, the rigging system has an estimated \$2.5M replacement cost. There are two options to fund the upgrade:

1. Spend \$2.5M (estimated) in addition to the \$5,986M now before Council City Council's approval.
2. Defer \$2.5M of non-critical 2016 projects:
 - Port-Cochere Lighting Restoration (historical front entrance canopy lighting)
 - Stage Loading Dock Upgrade (motorized lift)
 - Exterior Doors replacement.

Management and City staff are discussing how best to fund the rigging system.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Confidential Attachment 1 – Rigging System Opinion Letter
2. Building Condition Assessment Report:
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2015/ct/bgrd/backgroundfile-84615.pdf>
3. 2016 Capital Budget Notes:
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-86769.pdf>