

**THE CITY OF TORONTO**

**Clerk's Department**

**Minutes of the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee**

**Meeting No. 17**

**Wednesday, October 28, 1998**

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee met on Wednesday, October 28, 1998, in Committee Room A, 2nd Floor, Metro Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Case Ootes, Chair  
Councillor Disero  
Councillor Fotinos  
Councillor Jakobek  
Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski  
Councillor O'Brien  
Councillor Pantalone  
Councillor Prue  
Councillor Rae  
Councillor Saundercook

**345. Tax Policy Options Of The Multi-residential Property Class**

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee had before it the transmittal letter (October 23, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding the action of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force from its meeting of October 22, 1998, to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee and Council, and recommending that:

- (1) City Council pass a by-law prior to October 31, 1998,(the legal deadline for 1999) opting to have the new multi-residential property class apply to the City of Toronto beginning with the 1999 taxation year;
- (2) the Province be requested to permit the municipality to extend the maximum period for applying the new multi-residential property class beyond eight years (ie. in perpetuity);
- (3) the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be requested to report back to City Council, through the Assessment and Tax Policy Tax Force, on the tax rate which would be applied to the new multi-residential property class;

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- (4) the Association of Municipalities of Ontario be requested to support making the new multi-residential property class permanent;
- (5) City Council request the Province to grant the City legislation which would permit the City to create a new property class for Rooming Houses, Bachelorettes and other housing accommodation for the poorest and most vulnerable residents in the community;
- (6) the Federal Government be requested to treat the construction of new rental accommodation units in the same fashion as residential housing with respect to G.S.T. tax relief;
- (7) City Council reaffirm its intent to create a permanent solution to ensure property tax equity between homeowners and tenants; and the workplan to that end be developed in 1999, as set out by Council at its meeting held on July 21 and 23, 1998.

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee also had before it the communication (October 26, 1998) from Ms. Anne Golden, Chair, Homelessness Action Task Force.

On motion by Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee recommended to Council that:

- (1) City Council pass a by-law prior to October 31, 1998,(the legal deadline for 1999) opting to have the new multi-residential property class apply to the City of Toronto beginning with the 1999 taxation year;
- (2) the Province be requested to permit the municipality to extend the maximum period for applying the new multi-residential property class beyond eight years (ie. in perpetuity);

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- (3) the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be requested to report back to City Council, through the Assessment and Tax Policy Tax Force, on the tax rate which would be applied to the new multi-residential property class;
- (4) the Association of Municipalities of Ontario be requested to support making the new multi-residential property class permanent;
- (5) the Federal Government be requested to treat the construction of new rental accommodation units in the same fashion as residential housing with respect to G.S.T. tax relief;
- (6) City Council reaffirm its intent to create a permanent solution to ensure property tax equity between homeowners and tenants; and the workplan to that end be developed in 1999, as set out by Council at its meeting held on July 21 and 23, 1998.

On further motion by Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee also requested the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with appropriate officials to report to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee on the following motion:

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“City Council request the Province to grant the City legislation which would permit the City to create a new property class for Rooming Houses, Bachelorettes and other housing accommodation for the poorest and most vulnerable residents in the community.”

**(Report No. 22, Clause No. 1)**

**346. Court Ordered Recount in Scarborough-Malvern**

On motion by Councillor Jakobek, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee requested the City Solicitor to report directly to Council on the Court Ordered Recount in Scarborough-Malvern as set out in the confidential communication (September 23, 1998) from Councillor Balkissoon, and requested City Council to schedule an in camera session at its meeting to be held on October 28, 1998 to consider the requested report.

**(Report No. 22, Clause No. 2)**

Adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

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Chair.