

Community Development and Recreation Committee

Meeting No.	2	Contact	Candy Davidovits, Acting Administrator
Meeting Date	Monday, February 19, 2007	Phone	416-392-8032
Start Time	9:40 AM	E-mail	cdavidov@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall		

Attendance

Members of the Community Development and Recreation Committee were present for some or all of the time periods indicated under the section headed "Meeting Sessions", which appears at the end of the Minutes.

Councillor Joe Mihevc, Chair	X
Councillor Maria Augimeri, Vice-Chair	X
Councillor Janet Davis, Vice-Chair	X
Councillor Norm Kelly	X
Councillor Frances Nunziata	X
Councillor David Shiner	X

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Councillor Shiner, the minutes of the meeting of the Community Development and Recreation Committee held on January 22, 2007, were confirmed.

CD2.1	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	
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Federal Homelessness Funding: Authority to Negotiate a New Federal Agreement and Manage the Transition to the New Program

(February 5, 2007) report from General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration

Recommendations

The General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, recommends that:

1. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, in consultation with the City Solicitor, be authorized to enter into a contribution agreement with ServiceCanada or related entity for funding under the new Homelessness Partnering

Strategy, and that the objectives, priorities and allocation levels, substantially as outlined in the report and summarized in Appendix A, form the basis for the agreement;

2. once the contribution agreement with ServiceCanada or related entity is in place, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to enter into agreements with other City divisions, project sponsor agencies, and/or private expertise to deliver projects in line with the terms and conditions of the federal agreement, other than new housing development projects, which will be approved through the Affordable Housing Committee and Council;
3. once the contribution agreement with ServiceCanada or related entity is in place, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to adjust funding between objectives as may be required to ensure maximum and appropriate use of available federal funds and to reflect input from community consultation, new Council directions/priorities or other changes which might occur in the future and result in adjustments being required;
4. any project currently funded under the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI) program that is not completed by March 31, 2007, be approved as a priority for funding under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS);
5. in light of the results of the City's 2006 Street Needs Assessment, indicating that 16% of the homeless population is Aboriginal, that 20% (net of administration) of the City's HPS allocation be directed to projects that address Aboriginal homelessness;
6. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration work directly with the Aboriginal community to develop priorities for the funds under the HPS program, identified in Recommendation 5;
7. in the event that the current SCPI funds are not extended beyond March 31, 2007 by the last day of the City Council meeting in March 2007, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to fund the existing SCPI funded service related projects delivered by community agencies, as outlined in Appendix B, for the three-month period April 1 through June 30, 2007, at a cost of up to \$1.6 million from the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund;
8. if the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund is utilised as recommended above, that the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration seek reimbursement for this expenditure from the federal government, under the new Homelessness Partnering Strategy with funds returned to source;
9. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration report directly to Council on any further financial implications relating to the transition between the SCPI and HPS programs, as required;
10. in the event that the current SCPI funding is extended beyond March 31, 2007, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to approve allocations of any unexpended SCPI funding to projects and initiatives that are

in line with the objectives of the SCPI Community Plan, and to enter into any necessary agreements to give effect thereto;

11. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration report to Budget Committee on the financial implications of the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and possible extension of the current SCPI program once details are known; and
12. that a copy of this report be forwarded to the February 23, 2007 meeting of Budget Committee for its immediate consideration and transmittal of comments to the March 5 and 6, 2007 Council Meeting for consideration with this item.

Financial Impact

Entering into a contribution agreement with the federal government to administer the Homeless Partnering Strategy (HPS) allocation will have an impact on the 2007 budget. The impact will be dependent on the amount of the, yet unknown, allocation and on when the contract with the federal government is signed, as that will impact how much time remains in 2007 to expend the funds. If the City's allocation is similar to previous years, a total of approximately \$36 M is anticipated, spread over the two years. All eligible HPS expenditures will be reimbursed by the federal government at 100%, on a claims basis. Once the allocation and details are known and the contract is in place, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration will report to Budget Committee on the financial implications including impacts on the 2007 Capital and Operating Budgets.

If the SCPI program is extended in a timely fashion beyond March 31, 2007, the additional draw of \$1.6 million from the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund will not be required to maintain the projects from April 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007. If the program is extended, the expenditures will be funded from SCPI and continue into the second and possibly third quarters of 2007.

Recommendation 7 represents a contingency plan if SCPI is not extended in a timely fashion beyond March 31, 2007. Thus, funds of \$1.6 million from the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund will be returned to source pending confirmation of the extension of the existing SCPI program and/or eligibility under the HPS program.

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

Summary

The purpose of this report is to obtain the authority required for the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to enter into a new contribution agreement with the federal government for funding under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS), a two-year program, effective April 1, 2007. Included for approval is a high level plan outlining the City's objectives and priorities for investing the funds. It also seeks the authority needed to manage a smooth transition from the current federal homelessness program, Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI) to the new HPS program. And finally, authority is being sought for the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to approve projects in line with the objectives of the current SCPI Community Plan, if the SCPI program is extended beyond March 31, 2007.

The City is managing the transition between the old and new federal programs, despite having few details about the new program, the uncertain timing for the new contract and not knowing whether the current SCPI program will be extended. The report provides a new Plan for investing federal funds and transition strategies to accommodate the uncertain circumstances.

Background Information

2007-02-19 cd02-1APPC

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1589.pdf>)

2007-02-19 cd02-1APPA

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1588.pdf>)

2007-02-19 cd02-1APPB

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1590.pdf>)

2007-02-19 cd02-1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1587.pdf>)

Speakers

Carolann Barr, Youthlink

Joe Hester, Anishnawbe Health Toronto

Ann Fitzpatrick, Children's Aid Society of Toronto

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommended that:

1. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, in consultation with the City Solicitor, be authorized to enter into a contribution agreement with ServiceCanada or related entity for funding under the new Homelessness Partnering Strategy, and that the objectives, priorities and allocation levels, substantially as outlined in the report and summarized in Appendix A, form the basis for the agreement;
2. once the contribution agreement with ServiceCanada or related entity is in place, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to enter into agreements with other City divisions, project sponsor agencies, and/or private expertise to deliver projects in line with the terms and conditions of the federal agreement, other than new housing development projects, which will be approved through the Affordable Housing Committee and Council;
3. once the contribution agreement with ServiceCanada or related entity is in place, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to adjust funding between objectives as may be required to ensure maximum and appropriate use of available federal funds and to reflect input from community consultation, new Council directions/priorities or other changes which might occur in the future and result in adjustments being required;
4. any project currently funded under the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI) program that is not completed by March 31, 2007, be approved as a priority for funding under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS);

5. in light of the results of the City's 2006 Street Needs Assessment, indicating that 16% of the homeless population is Aboriginal, that 20% (net of administration) of the City's HPS allocation be directed to projects that address Aboriginal homelessness;
6. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration work directly with the Aboriginal community to develop priorities for the funds under the HPS program, identified in Recommendation 5;

(Recommendations 1 to 6 moved by Councillor Mihevc)

7. in the event that the current SCPI funds are not extended beyond March 31, 2007 by the last day of the City Council meeting in March 2007, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to fund the existing SCPI funded service related projects delivered by community agencies, as outlined in Appendix B, for the three-month period April 1 through June 30, 2007, at a cost of up to \$1.6 million from the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund;

(Motion by Councillor Davis)

8. if the Social Housing Stabilization Reserve Fund is utilised as recommended above, that the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration seek reimbursement for this expenditure from the federal government, under the new Homelessness Partnering Strategy with funds returned to source;
9. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration report directly to Council on any further financial implications relating to the transition between the SCPI and HPS programs, as required;
10. in the event that the current SCPI funding is extended beyond March 31, 2007, the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration be authorized to approve allocations of any unexpended SCPI funding to projects and initiatives that are in line with the objectives of the SCPI Community Plan, and to enter into any necessary agreements to give effect thereto; and
11. the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration report to Budget Committee on the financial implications of the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and possible extension of the current SCPI program once details are known.

(Recommendations 8 to 11 moved by Councillor Mihevc)

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Development and Recreation Committee forwarded a copy of the report (February 5, 2007) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to the February 23, 2007, meeting of the Budget Committee for its immediate consideration and transmittal of comments to the March 5 and 6, 2007, Council meeting for consideration with this item.

Declared Interests (Committee)

Councillor Joe Mihevc - declared his interest in Recommendation 7 of the report (February 5, 2007) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, in that his spouse works with the East York East Toronto Family Resources.

CD2.2	Information	Received	Transactional	
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Impact of Income Testing

(January 31, 2007) report from General Manager, Children's Services

Financial Implications

This report has no financial implications.

Summary

This report describes a regulation change under the Day Nurseries Act to the method of determining eligibility for child care subsidy. Effective January 2007, the Province introduced income testing as the method of determining eligibility for child care subsidy. Income testing will make more families eligible for child care subsidies, but will result in an estimated annualized loss of \$15 million in revenue from parent fees. Options to mitigate the loss of revenue to Toronto's child care system are presented in the report. The Division will be consulting with parents and other stakeholders on the options and will report in June 2007 on the results of the consultation and a recommended strategy to address the lost revenue.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-2

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1566.pdf>

2007-02-19 cd02-2APP2

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1597.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-2-APP1

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1567.pdf>

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor Davis, the Community Development and Recreation Committee received the report.

CD2.3	ACTION	Adopted	Policy	
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Progress Report: Meeting Current Nutrition Needs of Toronto's Children and Youth

(January 29, 2007) letter from Board of Health

Recommendations

Forwarding a report (January 15, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health entitled “Progress Report: Meeting Current Nutrition Needs of Toronto’s Children and Youth.”

Summary

Letter from the Board of Health forwarding to the Budget Committee and the Community Development and Recreation Committee a copy of the report (January 15, 2007) from the Medical Officer of Health.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1c

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1571.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1b

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1579.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1570.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1d

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1580.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3-ATT1a

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1573.pdf>

2007-02-19-cd02-3

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1569.pdf>

Committee Recommendations

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Development and Recreation Committee recommended that City Council endorse the Board of Health recommendations in having:

1. endorsed continued planned growth of student nutrition programs currently serving 1 in 16 youth to reach 1 in 8 youth by 2008 at an additional municipal cost of \$867,956.00;
2. endorsed 2007 municipal funding for the programs serving children in grades JK-8 of \$2,574,340, to restore the \$200,000 reallocated in 2005 to address youth programs, and the \$100,000 funding reduction from 2004 (a net increase of \$300,000);
3. requested the Minister of Children and Youth Services to contribute to program sustainability by increasing its support from 7% of total program costs to a level matching the municipal contribution level; and adjusting future funding to keep pace with current food costs;

4. reiterated its request to the federal government to provide core funding for a national universal student nutrition program, including funding allocated for monitoring and evaluation of the program; and
5. requested the Medical Officer of Health to approach the Toronto District School Board and the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to investigate opportunities for tying school gardens and allotment gardens into the Student Nutrition Program.

CD2.4	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	
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Impact of Poverty on Children's Current and Future Health

(September 15, 2006) letter from Board of Health

Recommendations

Submitting, for information, a report (August 28, 2006) from the Medical Officer of Health respecting the impact of poverty on children's current and future health.

Summary

Providing an overview of the impact of poverty on children's current and future health.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-4

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1582.pdf>

Committee Recommendations

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Development and Recreation Committee recommended that City Council endorse the Board of Health recommendations in having:

1. requested that the Children's Services Advisory Committee, in consultation with key stakeholders, identify key municipal policy levers and strategies for action to reduce child poverty including exploration of local options to reduce or eliminate the National Child Benefit Supplement claw back;
2. requested the Medical Officer of Health to work with key stakeholders including other city divisions, community agencies, and coalitions to ensure that the serious consequences of living in poverty to the current and future health of Toronto children are considered in decision-making regarding programs and services, advocacy, policy, and research;
3. advocated to the Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care that the Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines be revised to include specific objectives related to preventing poverty and mitigating the negative health impacts of poverty during childhood;

4. advocated to the Federal Minister of Health, Ontario Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Health Promotion, and Health and Long-Term Care and the Public Health Agency of Canada that a strategy be developed to monitor and report on disparities in child health outcomes;
5. urged the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health) to fund longitudinal research on:
 - a. pathways through which poverty during childhood exerts its effects on health; and
 - b. interventions to mitigate the impact of poverty during childhood on health;
6. requested that the Conference Board of Canada, Caledon Institute, and Canadian Policy Research Networks expand their research to study the health implications of key policies and strategies to prevent poverty during childhood and mitigate its negative effects on health;
7. forwarded the report to the Toronto Best Start Network, Child Health Network, Family Services Association, Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Jewish Child and Family Services of Toronto, Native Child and Family Services of Toronto, United Way of Greater Toronto, provincial Ministries of Children and Youth Services, Health Promotion, and Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario Public Health Association, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health), Canadian Institute for Health Information, Canadian Public Health Association, Campaign 2000, Caledon Institute, Conference Board of Canada, Canadian Pediatric Society, Canadian Policy Research Networks and the Public Health Agency of Canada; and
8. endorsed the recommendations for action outlined in the Canadian Policy Research Network report prepared for Toronto Public Health;
9. pressed its concern to the Premier of Ontario about the impact of poverty on children's health and wellbeing, and, as recommended by Campaign 2000, and urging the Ontario Government to:
 - a. increase the minimum wage to a level sufficient for an adult working full-time to reach Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-off;
 - b. eliminate the claw-back of the National Child Benefit Supplement as promised in the 2003 election;
 - c. allocate the \$300 million in provincial funding promised for child care in the 2003 election;
 - d. meet its target of building 20,000 affordable housing units and providing 35,000 housing allowances as promised in the 2003 election; and

- e. increase the social assistance and Ontario Disability Support Payments rates to reflect the real costs of living and index benefits to inflation.
10. decided to engage its Local Health Committees in the ongoing development and implementation of Toronto Public Health’s response to the impact of poverty on child and family health;
 11. requested Toronto Public Health to work with the Social Services Division in collaborating with community agencies and advocates on the upcoming campaign to end the provincial claw-back on social assistance, with adequate resources;
 12. decided to advise all Boards of Health in Ontario of the Board’s action in this regard for endorsement and encourage them to undertake similar actions;
 13. in conjunction with other Boards of Health or Health Units throughout Ontario, requested a meeting before the next provincial budget with the Premier, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Community and Social Services and the Minister of Children and Youth Services, to call for the Government to commit to a Poverty Reduction Strategy for Ontario with targets and timetables that will substantially benefit the health and well-being of Ontario children and their families; and
 14. acknowledged the important role the Toronto District School Board Parenting and Family Literacy Centres play in the continuum of services for parents and the early identification and development of young children and:
 - a. expressing its concern about the implications of potential budget cuts to these programs on children, their parents and the community;
 - b. urging the Toronto District School Board to maintain these Centres through ongoing funding; and
 - c. forwarding this concern to the Toronto Best Start Network for further discussion.

CD2.5	ACTION	Amended	Policy	
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Cost of the Nutritious Food Basket - Toronto 2006

(January 29, 2007) letter from Board of Health

Recommendations

That the Community Development and Recreation Committee recommend to City Council that the following recommendations of the Board of Health be endorsed:

1. the Board of Health request the Premier of Ontario to increase social assistance benefit rates so that the Basic Allowance includes a nutrition allowance which meets daily nutritional needs as determined annually by the cost of the Nutritious Food Basket, and that the remainder of the Basic Allowance be set to enable recipients to afford other basic needs including transportation, clothing, and personal care items;
2. the Board of Health request the Premier of Ontario to publish annually the details of current social assistance rate components and how they are determined, including the nutrition allowance portion of the Basic Allowance; and
3. the Board of Health recommend to the Government of Ontario that the minimum wage in Ontario be increased to \$10.00 per hour as a step towards ensuring that the Province's low wage earners are better able to afford nutritious food.

Summary

Letter (January 29, 2007) from the Board of Health submitting to City Council, through the Community Development and Recreation Committee, a number of recommendations for endorsement.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-5-ATT1

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1585.pdf>)

2007-02-19-cd02-5

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1584.pdf>)

Communications

(February 15, 2007) e-mail from Mr. John Clarke, Organizer, Ontario Coalition Against Poverty - CDMainCD2.5.2

(February 15, 2007) letter from Ms. Anne Egger, RNEC, Health Providers Against Poverty - CDMainCD2.5.3

(February 16, 2007) letter from Mr. Jonah Schein, Civic Engagement Coordinator, The Stop Community Food Centre - CDMainCD2.5.4

(February 19, 2007) memo from Councillor Joe Mihevc - CDMainCD2.5.1

(February 19, 2007) letter from Ms. Janet Maher, Medical Reform Group - CDMainCD2.5.5

Speakers

John Clarke, Organizer, Ontario Coalition Against Poverty

Dr. Catherine Oliver

Richard Meadows

Magaly San Martin, Parkdale Community Legal Services

Councillor Michael Thompson, Ward 37 - Scarborough Centre

Councillor Michael Walker, Ward 22 - St. Paul's

Committee Recommendations

The Community Development and Recreation Committee recommended that City Council:

1. endorse the Board of Health recommendations requesting the Premier of Ontario to:
 - a. increase social assistance benefit rates so that the Basic Allowance includes a nutrition allowance which meets daily nutritional needs as determined annually by the cost of the Nutritious Food Basket, and that the remainder of the Basic Allowance be set to enable recipients to afford other basic needs including transportation, clothing, and personal care items;
 - b. publish annually the details of current social assistance rate components and how they are determined, including the nutrition allowance portion of the Basic Allowance;

(Motion by Councillor Nunziata)

2. reaffirm its decision of December 14 and 16, 2005, requesting the Social Services staff to ensure that social assistance recipients receive all the diet benefits related to their condition and that proper training is given to staff to ensure that Social Services staff do not eliminate any benefit to which a social assistance recipient is entitled;

(Motion by Councillor Davis)

3. in the spirit of natural justice and in recognition of government's basic role to protect those citizens in our society most vulnerable and in need, endorse provincial Bill 150, An Act to amend the Employment Standards Act, 2000, which would raise the minimum wage to \$10.00 an hour;

(Motion by Councillor Nunziata)

4. petition Queen's Park to enact Bill 150; and

(Motion by Councillor Nunziata)

5. forward a copy of these recommendations to all municipalities in Ontario with a population over 50,000.

(Motion by Councillor Nunziata)

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Community Development and Recreation Committee requested the General Manager, Social Services, to:

- i. submit a briefing note to City Council on March 5, 2007, supporting the Toronto case for an increase to the minimum wage; and

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- ii. submit a report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee in six months on how the policy referred to in Recommendation 2. is being implemented.

(Motion by Councillor Davis)

A recorded vote on the decision of the Committee was as follows:

FOR: Councillors Augimeri, Davis, Mihevc, Nunziata and Shiner – 5

AGAINSTS: Councillor Kelly - 1

Motions

Refer motion moved by Councillor Norman Kelly (Lost)

That the increase in the minimum wage in Ontario to \$10.00 per hour be referred to the City Manager's Office for a report back to the Executive Committee on its financial and employment implications and on the ability of the "earned income tax credit" to assist the poor.

Refer motion moved by Councillor Joe Mihevc (Out of Order)

That the Community Development and Recreation Committee recommend to City Council that all of the recommendations from the Board of Health and to City Council be referred to the "Toronto for All" process on income security to allow further public into the City decision-making process.

Amend motion moved by Councillor Joe Mihevc (Out of Order)

That the Community Development and Recreation Committee approve "Toronto for All" as an approach to discuss key social issues and challenges facing the City, to engage the public directly in this dialogue and decision-making process and to bring forward a set of actions for the City on moving ahead, with income security issues as the first area of focus.

Rulings

Ruling By Councillor Joe Mihevc on challenge by Councillor Norm Kelly (Ruling Upheld)

The Chair ruled the \$10.00 minimum wage issue is legitimately before the Committee.

Ruling By Councillor Janet Davis on challenge by Councillor Maria Augimeri (Ruling Lost)

The Chair ruled that Item CD5.1.1 is in order as it is consistent with what is before the Committee.

CD2.6	Information	Deferred	Transactional	
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Impacts - Reduction in Permit Fees Policy

(February 5, 2007) report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications.

Summary

To report on the impact of the Reduction in Permit Fees Policy in 2006.

The Harmonized Permit Allocation and Permit Rate Framework were designed to ensure equitable, accessible and consistent permit rates for facilities across the City. Even though the permit rates are financially reasonable and below the pricing charged by other communities and organizations, there are still groups who experience financial hardships. The Reduction in Permit Fees Policy addresses these issues.

Background Information

2007-02-19-cd02-6

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1586.pdf>

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor Augimeri, the Community Development and Recreation Committee deferred consideration of the report (February 5, 2007) from the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to its next meeting on April 2, 2007, for consideration and debate.

CD2.7	ACTION	Referred	Transactional	
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Study of Recreation Curling Opportunities

(January 9, 2007) letter from Councillor Cliff Jenkins

Recommendations

That the Community Development and Recreation Committee commission a study seeking to establish:

- the number of Toronto citizens who have lost the opportunity to curl as a result of closures and the latent demand for replacement curling facilities;
- the economics of building and operating a curling club;
- the interests of other stakeholders in addressing the demand for curling facilities; and
- recommendations for the City of Toronto in proceeding to address the question of the loss of curling opportunities for our citizens.

Summary

Letter (January 9, 2007) from Councillor Cliff Jenkins requesting the Community Development and Recreation Committee to commission a study in regard to recreational curling facilities.

Speaker

Councillor Cliff Jenkins, Ward 25 – Don Valley West

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor Nunziata, the Community Development and Recreation Committee referred the communication (January 9, 2007) from Councillor Cliff Jenkins to the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, for a report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee.

CD2.8	ACTION	Adopted	Transactional	
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Grace Carmen Senior Citizens Home Inc. - Reserve Fund Withdrawal and Approval of a Second Mortgage

(February 13, 2007) report from General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration

Recommendations

The General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration recommends that:

1. authority be given to the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to:
 - a. withdraw \$296,000.00 from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund and lend these funds to Grace Carmen Senior Citizens Home Inc. at 180 Sheridan Avenue, for the replacement of elevators;
 - b. negotiate, execute and deliver a loan agreement, collateral security and ancillary agreements and documentation, including a second mortgage and a general assignment of rents, subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - i. the loan will be non-interest bearing and not repayable until the earlier of the date (the “Commencement Date”)
 1. that the first mortgage is due to mature, or
 2. such mortgage is redeemed;

- ii. starting on the Commencement Date the loan will bear interest at a rate equal to the prime lending rate charged by the City's leading banker plus one percent and be subject to a repayment schedule that would amortize the loan over a period of 15 years, subject to the right of the housing provider to pre-pay its loan at any time without interest or penalty;
 - iii. the interest rate and repayment schedule will be renegotiable, subject to further Council approval; and
 - iv. such other terms and conditions that are satisfactory to the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor;
 - c. enter into an option agreement requiring the housing provider to provide rent supplement housing from and after the date the operating agreement is terminated, for a term of up to 15 years, provided that appropriate funding is received from the Service Manager;
 - d. consent, on behalf of the City of Toronto to Grace Carmen Senior Citizens Home Inc. mortgaging, charging or encumbering the Property in connection with the City's mortgage, as required under the Operating Agreement being administered by the City of Toronto as Service Manager pursuant to the *Social Housing Reform Act, 2000*;
 - e. apply for the consent of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in connection with the City's mortgage, and accept such consent subject to the Minister's standard conditions;
 - f. apply for and accept such other consents and approvals as may be necessary or convenient from other third parties, including Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation;
2. the loan of \$296,000.00 be deemed to be in the interests of the City of Toronto in accordance with subsection 83(1) of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, Chapter 11, Schedule A;
3. the 2007 Recommended Operating Budget for Shelter, Support and Housing Administration include \$296,000.00 gross and \$0 net funded by a withdrawal from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund for the loan to Grace Carmen Senior Citizens Home Inc.; and
4. any repayments of principal and interest on the loan be credited, as they are received, to the balance of the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund.
5. a copy of this report be forwarded to the February 23, 2007 meeting of Budget Committee for its immediate consideration and transmittal of comments to the March 5 and 6, Council Meeting for consideration with this item.

Financial Impact

This report includes a withdrawal of \$296,000 from the City's Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund and an increase to the social housing budget by the same amount. Grace Carmen will be given the funds in the form of a loan. The loan will not be repaid until the housing provider's first mortgage matures in 2026 or is redeemed.

Funding for the loan would come from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund that was established by Council to help address the financial exposure related to the devolution of social housing. The fund can be used to offset capital reserve shortfalls where there are urgent capital repair needs. The uncommitted balance of the fund as of December 31, 2006, is \$20.2 million.

The funds will be included in the 2007 Recommended Operating budget for Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to accommodate this withdrawal. In accordance with the requirements of paragraph 227-4 of Chapter 227 (Reserves and Reserve Funds) of the City of Toronto Municipal Code, the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has determined that the use of the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund is an appropriate funding source for the loan.

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

Summary

Approval of this report would commit a loan of \$296,000.00 from the City of Toronto to a non-profit housing provider, Grace Carmen Senior Citizens Home Inc, in order to modernize elevators that have passed their useful life. The loan will be non-interest bearing and not repayable until the earlier of the date when the first mortgage on the property matures or the mortgage is redeemed. After that, the loan will bear interest over a 15 year period and can be prepaid by the housing provider without interest or penalty. The interest rate and repayment schedule will be renegotiable, subject to further Council approval. The housing provider will agree to provide rent supplement housing for a 15 year period following the repayment of its first mortgage.

The loan will be funded from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund which is an obligatory reserve fund set up to deal with the financial impact of the downloading of social housing to the municipal level. The loan must also be approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, as the guarantor of the first mortgage and by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, as the prior lender. The City will pursue these approvals after Council approval has been obtained.

It is important to proceed with this loan approval now so that the housing provider can act on tenders that are due to expire by March 31st. This will allow the housing provider to begin the required elevator modernizations in April 2007.

Background Information

2007-02-19 cd02-8

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-1703.pdf>

Committee Recommendations

On motion by Councillor Shiner, the Community Development and Recreation Committee recommended that:

1. authority be given to the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to:
 - a. withdraw \$296,000.00 from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund and lend these funds to Grace Carmen Senior Citizens Home Inc. at 180 Sheridan Avenue, for the replacement of elevators;
 - b. negotiate, execute and deliver a loan agreement, collateral security and ancillary agreements and documentation, including a second mortgage and a general assignment of rents, subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - i. the loan will be non-interest bearing and not repayable until the earlier of the date (the “Commencement Date”)
 1. that the first mortgage is due to mature; or
 2. such mortgage is redeemed;
 - ii. starting on the Commencement Date the loan will bear interest at a rate equal to the prime lending rate charged by the City’s leading banker plus one percent and be subject to a repayment schedule that would amortize the loan over a period of 15 years, subject to the right of the housing provider to pre-pay its loan at any time without interest or penalty;
 - iii. the interest rate and repayment schedule will be renegotiable, subject to further Council approval; and
 - iv. such other terms and conditions that are satisfactory to the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor;
 - c. enter into an option agreement requiring the housing provider to provide rent supplement housing from and after the date the operating agreement is terminated, for a term of up to 15 years, provided that appropriate funding is received from the Service Manager;
 - d. consent, on behalf of the City of Toronto to Grace Carmen Senior Citizens Home Inc. mortgaging, charging or encumbering the Property in connection with the City’s mortgage, as required under the Operating Agreement being administered by the City of Toronto as Service Manager pursuant to the *Social Housing Reform Act, 2000*;

- e. apply for the consent of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in connection with the City's mortgage, and accept such consent subject to the Minister's standard conditions; and
 - f. apply for and accept such other consents and approvals as may be necessary or convenient from other third parties, including Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation;
2. the loan of \$296,000.00 be deemed to be in the interests of the City of Toronto in accordance with subsection 83(1) of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, Chapter 11, Schedule A;
 3. the 2007 Recommended Operating Budget for Shelter, Support and Housing Administration include \$296,000.00 gross and \$0 net funded by a withdrawal from the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund for the loan to Grace Carmen Senior Citizens Home Inc.; and
 4. any repayments of principal and interest on the loan be credited, as they are received, to the balance of the Social Housing Federal Reserve Fund.

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor Shiner, the Community Development and Recreation Committee:

- i. forwarded a copy of the report (February 13, 2007) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to the February 23, 2007, meeting of the Budget Committee for its immediate consideration and transmittal of comments to the March 5 and 6, 2007, Council meeting for consideration with this item; and
- ii. requested the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, to provide a briefing note to City Council on March 5 and 6, 2007, on the long term maintenance agreement and the amount of funding currently in the Grace Carmen Senior Citizens Home Inc. annual budget for elevator maintenance.

Motions

Introduce Report motion moved by Councillor David Shiner (Carried)

Meeting Sessions

Session Date	Session Type	Start Time	End Time	Public or Closed Session
2007-02-19	Morning	9:40 AM	12:45 PM	Public

Chair