Councillor Protection at City Properties – Update

Date: March 10, 2011
To: Government Management Committee
From: Chief Corporate Officer, City Clerk and Director Strategic Communications
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. The Confidential Attachments contain information that if released, could negatively affect the security and safety of Councillors, City staff, and City property.

Reference Number: P:\2011\Internal Services\Fac\Gm11007Fac- (AFS 11713)

SUMMARY

At its meeting of October 1, 2009, Toronto City Council approved a staff report on Councillor Protection at City Properties. This report provides a status update on the enhanced security measures and provides additional recommendations for Councillor Security.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief Corporate Officer, City Clerk and Director, Strategic Communications recommend that:

1. City Council receive for information the update on enhanced security measures, as included in Confidential Attachment 1 - Councillor Protection at City Properties – Status Update.
2. City Council approve the additional recommended measures to enhance information and physical security for Councillors' Security as described in Confidential Attachment 2.

3. Council authorize the public release of the status updates for recommendations numbers 8, 9, 10, and 15 of Attachment 1 after adoption of this report as these measures affect the public.

4. Council authorize the public release of recommended measures B and C of Attachment 2 after approval of the recommendations as these measures affect the public.

Financial Impact
There are no financial impacts associated with adopting the recommendations contained in this report.

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

DEcision History
The staff report entitled “Councillor Protection at City Properties” dated September 2, 2009, highlighted security measures previously in place for the protection of Councillors and provided recommendations for additional security measures. These recommendations were provided in the form of two confidential attachments, Key Protection Concepts (Attachment 1) and Recommendations for Councillor Security at City Properties (Attachment 2).

At its meeting of October 1, 2009, City Council authorized the public release of recommendations numbers 8, 9, 10, and 15 of Confidential Attachment 2 of the September 2, 2009 Staff Report from the Chief Corporate Officer.

COMMENTS

Status of Security Measures since October, 2009
The baseline level of security for Councillors at City Hall and at civic centres was established when City Council approved the Key Protection Concepts, contained in Confidential Attachment 1 in the September 2, 2009 report entitled "Councillor Protection at City Properties."

Based on the Key Protection Concepts, City staff implemented physical security measures for Councillor offices, Council Chambers, and Councillor parking areas. At the same time, security operational and protocol changes were implemented to enhance overall security of Councillors.
These measures, including the implementation of the sign-in procedures for Councillor Offices at City Hall, North York and Scarborough Civic Centres in May 2010, were communicated to Members of Council, senior management and staff in the City administration and members of the Press Gallery through memos and training sessions.

Staff have gathered feedback from various stakeholders and from the Council Reception on the implementation of the sign-in procedures and the security measures related to the 2nd Floor of City Hall. The feedback informed the status update as set out Confidential Attachment 1 of this report. While implementation of most of the recommendations from the October 2009 Council meeting have been completed, there are some areas where additional staff training and improvements are required.

New Additional Recommendations
This staff report also contains a second confidential Attachment 2 -“Additional Recommendations for Councillors' Security”. Since the original “Councillor Protection at City Properties” staff report, staff have been made aware of additional threats and issues that require attention. This attachment provides new, additional security recommendations to enhance the level of information security and personal security for Councillors.

CONCLUSION
The new Recommendations for Councillor Security, along with the previous enhancements, has further upgraded the overall level of security afforded to Councillors while at City Hall and the Civic Centres. Threats to Councillors will continue to be reviewed.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS
Confidential Attachment 1  Councillor Protection at City Properties – Status Update
Confidential Attachment 2  Additional Recommendations for Councillor Security