TORONTO

STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

Toronto Police Service: Renewal of the Community Policing Partnership Program Grant Agreement

Date:	September 21, 2012
To:	Executive Committee, City of Toronto
From:	Alok Mukherjee, Chair, Toronto Police Services Board

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to request the Executive Committee to submit a recommendation to City Council to authorize the City of Toronto to renew the Community Policing Partnership (CPP) Program Agreement between the Province of Ontario, the City of Toronto, and the Toronto Police Services Board for a further two-year period – April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2014. This Agreement, received in May 2012, replaces the current agreement, which expired on March 31, 2012.

Under the CPP Program, the Toronto Police Service (Service) receives grant funding of up to $7.53 million annually to cover a portion of the salaries and benefits of up to 251 officers. Although the program is on-going, a formal agreement is entered into every two years. Revenue of $7.53 million is built into the Service budget each year for the CPP grant program. In order to maximize the amount of funding received, the Service must maintain its uniform staffing levels at a predetermined benchmark of at least 5,180 officers. Uniform staffing levels have been maintained above this benchmark every year since the inception of the CPP Program in 1998 and the current approved authorized uniform strength is 5,604.

RECOMMENDATIONS

On behalf of the Toronto Police Services Board, the Chair of the Board, Alok Mukherjee, recommends that:

> City of Toronto Council authorize the City of Toronto to renew the Community Policing Partnership (CPP) Agreement with the Province and the Toronto Police Services Board, on terms and conditions substantially similar to those contained in the previous CPP Grant Program Agreement with the Province, subject to approval as to form by the City Solicitor.

Implementation Points

The Ontario government requires that both the Toronto Police Services Board and the City of Toronto sign the CPP Agreement. Once City Council authorization has been obtained, the Toronto Police Service will arrange for the appropriate City officials to sign the CPP Agreement.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget for the Toronto Police Service.

As the CPP Program is an on-going program, grant funding, estimated at $7.53 million, is included as revenue in the 2012 Toronto Police Service Operating Budget. Entering into a renewal agreement with the Province in respect of the CPP Program will have no further financial implications or impact; however, failing to enter into the Agreement would result in loss of revenue of $7.53 million annually for the Board and the City with respect to the 251 officers that are partially funded through the grant program.

The renewal of the CPP Program Agreement with the Province does not commit the City to any additional expenditures. Although it does require the City to cover salary expenses not covered by the grant, these expenditures are included in the Service's base operating budget and would be incurred, regardless, if the Service is to maintain its uniform staffing levels at the current authorized strength of 5,604.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The CPP Program is a cost-sharing arrangement between the Province of Ontario and various municipalities. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (then known as the Ministry of the Solicitor General) introduced the Program in 1998 to assist municipalities to enhance community safety and increase police visibility by sharing the cost of an additional 1,000 front-line uniform officers across Ontario. The Province committed to pay 50% of all salary and benefits costs of allocated uniform hires, to a maximum of $30,000 per officer per year. Police Services were required to maintain a minimum uniform staffing level equal to the Program benchmark (actual uniform staffing level reported at June 15, 1998) and the allocated new uniform hires. All CPP funded officers were to be assigned to a community policing function.

The Service was allocated 251 officers to be funded by the CPP Program and is, therefore, required to maintain a minimum uniform strength of 5,180 officers (program benchmark of 4,929 officers and 251 additional officers) to receive the full amount of funding offered under the program. This is not an issue, as the Service uniform establishment, the number of uniform officers believed necessary to most effectively fulfil operational responsibilities, is currently above that number and has exceeded the minimum required staffing level in every year since 1998.

The renewal Agreement provides that the Province will continue to share the salary and benefit costs for up to 251 police officers above the Program benchmark identified above. Based on the current approved authorized strength, and the current salary and benefit

costs of these officers, it is expected that the Service will claim the full amount of $7.53M for the term of the Agreement.

The Ontario government requires that both the Toronto Police Services Board and the City of Toronto sign the Agreement. It is therefore necessary that Council authorise the appropriate City officials to sign all documents related to the Program and the Agreement on behalf of the City of Toronto.

COMMENTS

The CPP Program Agreement contains terms and conditions substantially similar to those contained in the previous Agreement with the Province. The Agreement will be reviewed and approved as to form by the City Solicitor prior to its execution.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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Chair

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