



## STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

### TDSB Schools in the First Phase of Schools First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy Implementation

<b>Date:</b>	September 4, 2013
<b>To:</b>	Community Development and Recreation Committee
<b>From:</b>	General Manager, Children's Services
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### SUMMARY

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The Ministry of Education's Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy provides \$113.0 million over three years to school boards across Ontario. This funding will convert current licensed school-based child care spaces for four and five-year olds to spaces that can be licensed for younger children, birth to 3.8 years. Children's Services previously reported on sites selected in the first phase of this Policy in three of four Toronto school boards. At that time, Toronto District School Board (TDSB) facility staff were still finalizing plans and acquiring approvals. Council requested the General Manager, Children's Services to report through the Community Development and Recreation Committee for approval when the TDSB had confirmed sites for funding under the first phase of the policy and once child care operators had been notified by the School Board.

The TDSB has now selected phase one sites through a joint process with Toronto Children's Services. As the capital funds are administered by the school boards, after consultation with City Legal, it has been established that the City has no formal authority to provide final approvals under the policy.

#### Financial Impact

Capital funding available through the Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy is allocated by the Province directly to the school boards, with no financial impact to the City. Should additional Provincial fee subsidy be received, Children's Services will review its service levels as part of the annual budget process.

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

## **DECISION HISTORY**

At its meeting of February 20, 2013, City Council authorized the General Manager, Children's Services, to endorse joint Consolidated Municipal Service Managers-school board plans for the investment of capital funding allocated to boards of education under the policy and requested the General Manager, Children's Services to work with the Ministry of Education to develop appropriate and achievable space conversion targets for Toronto under the Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2013.CD18.3>

City Council on July 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2013 requested the General Manager, Children's Services to report through the Community Development and Recreation Committee for approval when the Toronto District School Board has confirmed sites for funding under the first phase of the Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy and once child care operators have been notified by the School Board.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2013.CD22.4>

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

As reported previously, the Ontario Ministry of Education is providing \$113.0 million over three years to school boards across Ontario under the Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy. The purpose of the policy is to convert current licensed school-based child care spaces for four and five-year olds to spaces that can be licensed for younger children, birth to 3.8 years. Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) across Ontario have been working with schools boards to develop plans for child care retrofits under the policy (Children's Services is the CMSM for the City of Toronto). Using the Child Care Service Plan and other resources, Children's Services and Toronto school boards have established a ranked list of eligible operators.

At the time of Children's Services report on the schools selected for investment under the policy, the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) facility staff were still finalizing plans and acquiring necessary approvals within the Board. Council requested the General Manager, Children's Services to report back for approval when the TDSB has confirmed sites for funding under the first phase of the policy and once child care operators have been notified by the School Board.

City staff and school boards have worked together to identify sites. As the capital funds are administered by the boards, after consultation with City Legal, it has been established that the City has no formal authority to provide final approvals under the policy.

## COMMENTS

The TDSB sites selected under phase one of the Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy are as follows:

<b>Name of School</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Age Group</b>	<b># of spaces created</b>
Eastview Junior Public School	43	Toddler	10
Fleming Public School	42	Toddler	10
Sir Samuel B Steele Junior Public School	39	Infant	10
Tumpane Public School	9	Toddler	10
Total Spaces			40

As with all sites selected for capital investment, Children's Services staff will work with School Board staff to communicate with child care operators and plan for construction. In the event that a selected child care operator declines the offer to reconfigure, the offer will go to the next centre on the list. Throughout the three-year program, Children's Services and school boards will work together to fund additional capital projects based on the list of eligible operators, which is consistent with the Child Care Service Plan 2010-2014.

## CONTACT

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## SIGNATURE

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