

Councillor Joe Mihevc
Toronto City Hall
St. Paul's West
Ward 21

MEMO

TO: Members of the Executive Committee

FROM: Councillor Joe Mihevc

RE: Improving the Equity Impact Statement

DATE: November 21, 2013

Standard City Reports include an *Equity Impact Statement*. This has been a mandate by City Council policy for a number of years.

Developing the Equity Impact Statement was the work of the Sub Committee on Access and Equity, which sought to include access, equity and human rights considerations to all public policy development efforts.

The idea behind the effort was be ensure that the equity considerations were not to be compartmentalized in one city department but would be included across the board in the work plan of all City Divisions.

It is time to evaluate the tool with a view of improving its effectiveness. The Equity Impact Statements needs to become a helpful tool for city staff to develop policies and for Council to assess whether a policy helps move the City in the right direction in terms of access and equity.

A more rigorous equity impact tool clearly needs to be developed. Good methodological tools would help each department determine whether their spending priorities are consistent with their stated goals. Staff need to address what tools and questions are appropriate to achieve this.

The motion requests staff to report on how to strengthen and the *Equity Impact Statement* and reporting process.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the City Manager review and report to Council on the *Equity Impact Statement* that accompanies all City reports. Such report should focus on ways in which the reporting tool can be improved to better contribute to healthy public policy.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joe Mihevc

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