



LOBBYIST REGISTRAR'S REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Office of Lobbyist Registrar – 2016-2025 Capital Budget and Plan

Date:	December 8, 2015
To:	Budget Committee
From:	Lobbyist Registrar
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This report seeks Budget Committee's recommendation for City Council to approve the Office of Lobbyist Registrar's 2016-2025 Capital Budget and Plan. This 10-Year Capital Budget and Plan enables the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar (OLR) to continue to provide and maintain an accessible, publicly available online lobbyist registry as required by the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, s. 165. The Capital Budget and Plan totals \$1.201 million over the period from 2016 to 2025 for Lobbyist Registry State of Good Repair (SOGR).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Lobbyist Registrar recommends that:

1. Budget Committee recommend to Executive Committee that City Council approve the 2016-2025 Capital Budget and Plan for the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar of \$1.201 million.

Financial Impact

The financial impact of adopting the recommendation in this report will be the inclusion of \$1.201 million in the City of Toronto's 2016-2025 10-year Capital Budget and Plan, fully funded from debt.

DECISION HISTORY

This report is submitted by the Lobbyist Registrar to Budget Committee in accordance with Executive Committee Item 31.1 “A Policy Framework for Toronto’s Accountability Officers”, adopted as amended by the City of Toronto Council on April 29 and 30, 2009; and Chapter 3, Accountability Officers, Toronto Municipal Code, enacted by City Council on October 27, 2009.

City Council approved the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar’s Capital Budget and Plan of \$0.660 million over the period from 2015 to 2024 for Lobbyist Registry State of Good Repair (SOGR) on March 10 and 11, 2015 ([EX3.4 “2015 Capital and Operating Budgets”, Item 4c](#)).

COMMENTS

The main objective of the 10-Year Capital Plan is to provide funding for State of Good Repair (SOGR) of the Lobbyist Registry. The 10-Year Capital Plan totals \$1.201 million including a 2015 carry forward of \$0.013 million and is fully funded by debt. There is no State of Good Repair backlog.

The Lobbyist Registrar is responsible under the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* (“COTA”) and the Lobbying By-law (Chapter 140, Toronto Municipal Code) for promoting and enhancing the transparency, accountability and integrity of City government decision making through public disclosure of lobbying activities and regulation of lobbyists’ conduct.

The COTA, s. 165 requires the City of Toronto to maintain a lobbyist registry, which is available to the public. The Lobbying By-law requires lobbyists to register before lobbying and to report their lobbying activities within three business days after they occur. The Office of the Lobbyist Registrar maintains an online, publicly available lobbyist registry, which meets the statutory requirement and enables lobbyists to meet their obligations under the by-law to register and report their lobbying activities.

The Lobbyist Registry system has three major purposes:

- Lobbyists use the system to document their interactions with City officials.
- The information is available publicly through the OLR’s website and is searchable.
- The information is contained in an internal operating system (IOS), which is managed by OLR staff.

Lobbyist Registry SOGR (2015-2016)

State of Good Repair of the Lobbyist Registry is required to enable the registry to continue to function, comply with statutory obligations, meet requirements of users and conform to City and industry technological standards. An updated search capacity will

ensure that the public can access the information in the registry. To reflect the current technology prevalence of mobile device usage replacing office computers, a mobile interface is critical to ensure that the transparency and accuracy of the registry is maintained and prevent delays in registration and reporting.

In addition, the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* requires that all applications meet the WCAG 2.0 AA accessibility standard by 2021. This project will ensure that the Lobbyist Registry application meets this requirement.

The State of Good Repair project commenced in 2015 with business requirements currently ongoing. There is no change to the project cost of \$0.660 million. The project will have projected cash flows of \$0.501 million in 2016, comprising the previously approved commitment of \$0.488 million in 2016 and a 2015 carry forward of \$0.013 million.

Lobbyist Registry SOGR 2023

In 2023, the Lobbyist Registry will need to be refreshed to enable the registry to continue to function, comply with statutory obligations, meet requirements of users, and conform to the City and industry technology standards. This project will have a project cost of \$0.700 million and will start in 2023.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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Lobbyist Registrar

ATTACHMENTS

2016-2025 Capital Plan – Accountability Officers Budget Request Overview