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2018 OPERATING BUDGET BRIEFING NOTE

Summary of Fire Protection Service Levels on Toronto Island

Issue / Background:

- At the Budget Committee meeting held on December 18, 2017 the Fire Chief and General Manager, Toronto Fire Services (TFS) was requested to provide a Briefing Note related to fire protection levels on Toronto Island, including the total cost of providing this service per person compared to City-wide service cost per person.
- Toronto Island is a year-round community comprised of approximately 300 homes, 600 full-time residents, and numerous non-residential properties and businesses including the residential Natural Science and Day School, the Island Filtration Plant, the Royal Canadian Yacht Club, the Island Yacht Club, the Queen City Yacht Club, the Toronto Island Marina, the Gibraltar Point Centre for the Arts, Centreville Amusement Park and the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (BBTCA).
- According to the Toronto Island Community Association, approximately 1.225 million people visit the Toronto Island every year.

Key Points:

Emergency Incidents

- TFS responds to over 115,000 emergency incidents annually on a City-wide basis.
- On average, TFS responded to 320 emergency incidents per day across the City in 2016. During the same period, the TFS crew on Toronto Island responded to approximately one incident every two days.
- Table 1 provides a breakdown of emergency incidents City-wide and on the Toronto Island from 2012 to 2017.

Table 1 – Emergency Incidents 2012 to 2017

Year	Toronto Island Emergency Incidents	City-wide Emergency Incidents
2012	123	120,509
2013	144	108,569
2014	149	110,876
2015	151	115,667
2016	171	117,016
2017 (Jan to Oct)	90	112,660

Note: 2017 reflects the closure of the Toronto Island from April to early August due to flooding

- The number of emergency incidents City-wide is increasing consistently by approximately 2% per year. On the Toronto Island, emergency incidents are increasing by approximately 8% per year.
- The majority of the emergency incidents on Toronto Island occur from June through September, with July generally having the highest volume of emergency events.

Emergency Incidents by Type

- Based on 2012-2016 data,
 - As noted in Table 2 below, the majority of emergency incidents that occurred on Toronto Island were medical in nature, representing 66% of total incidents. The number of emergency medical events are trending upward, generally being driven by increasing numbers of visitors to Toronto Island and an aging residential population.
 - Emergency fire incidents are the next greatest majority representing 16% of total island incidents.

Table 2 – Emergency Incidents by Type (2012 to 2016)

Type		Island Responses	City-wide Responses
Medical		66%	49%
Emergency Fire		16%	30%
CBRNE & Hazardous Materials		4%	1%
Technical Rescue		4%	3%
Carbon Monoxide		1%	3%
Vehicle Incident		0%	8%
Other Emergency Events		9%	6%

Toronto Island Fire Protection Service Levels

- Toronto Fire Station 335, located at 235 Cibola Avenue on Toronto Island, is staffed on a 24/7 basis with one crew of five firefighters (with four platoons, 20 firefighters are assigned to the Toronto Island in total).
- Station 335 houses one full size pumper truck and one aerial truck. In addition, there is a mini-pumper and a van that enable Station 335 crews to navigate the narrow streets and bridges.
- The crew at Station 335 responds to every emergency incident on Toronto Island. When the incident requires additional TFS personnel and/or resources, crews and equipment are transported to Toronto Island by the TFS fireboats as needed.

Costs

- The annual cost to maintain the Toronto Fire Station 335 crew on Toronto Island 24/7 is approximately \$2.7 million.

- Based on estimated populations of 2.8 million City-wide and 600 on Toronto Island, the cost per capita to maintain the current TFS staffing levels are approximately:
 - Toronto Island: \$2.7 million / 600 residents = \$4,500 per capita
 - City-Wide: \$461 million / 2.8 million residents = \$165 per capita

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