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2019 OPERATING BUDGET BRIEFING NOTE

Immediate Steps to Reduce Gun Violence – Unfunded Actions

Issue/Background:

- At its meeting of February 4, 2019, the Budget Committee requested the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to provide a list of actions/steps from the July 2018 Immediate Steps to Reduce Gun Violence report that are unfunded.
- On July 23, 2018, Toronto City Council approved CC44.14: [Immediate Steps to Address Gun Violence report](#) which authorized staff to apply for federal and provincial government funding for prevention, intervention and enforcement initiatives to respond to the increase in gun violence in the city.
- On July 31, 2018, Social Development and Administration (SDFA) Division submitted six grant applications to the Federal Government for funding from its National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS) program for a total of \$32.6 million to implement actions related to prevention and intervention initiatives included in the City's gun violence prevention strategy.
- In addition to the City's application, the Toronto Police Service (TPS) applied for \$22.7 million in NCPS funding for TPS projects, including implementing a youth gang intervention and intelligence strategy, enhancing the Neighbourhood Officer program, a cyber-bullying reduction program, the Life Skills to Succeed program, expansion of the CCTV program and the ShotSpotter technology.
- Mayor Tory communicated City Council's request to the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada on August 3, 2018.
- In August 2018, the Province announced that it will invest \$25 million in new funding to fight gangs and guns. Of that funding, \$19.6 million will be provided to Toronto Police Service over four years (\$4.9 million annually) for digital, investigative and analytical resources to combat guns and gangs in Toronto.
- On December 20, 2018, the Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Border Security and Organized Crime Reduction, announced direct intervention funding of \$6.8 million over five years for the City's Community Healing Project. The project addresses the root causes of youth violence and gang involvement by building young people's mental health literacy and resilience to trauma, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and hypersensitive flight or fight responses developed due to community violence.
- Minister Blair also announced \$0.4 million for the Life Skills to Succeed program that will enhance the Toronto Police Service's Neighbourhood Officer Program by providing life skills training and gang prevention training to at-risk young people.

Key Points:

- While gun violence continues to be a problem in the city, other levels of government have not funded all City, TCHC and TPS actions required to provide a comprehensive and sustainable response to address the issue.
- A total of \$26.2 million has not been funded for City prevention and intervention actions to address gun violence.
- The 2019 Staff Recommended Operating Budget for Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFA), funding of \$2.6 million has been included to fully fund Toronto Youth Equity Strategy actions, some of which were included in the NCPS grant applications.
- The Toronto Police Service has submitted a funding request to the Federal Government in the amount of \$22.7 million through the National Crime Prevention Strategy grant, of which \$22.3 million has not been approved. This is comprised of \$7.7 million for CCTV expansion and ShotSpotter technology outlined in Table 2 and \$14.6M for projects outlined in Table 3.
- On August 8, 2018, the Mayor wrote to the Premier asking for \$5.0 million for Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) to expand the Community Safety Unit (CSU) Officer program to 10 additional sites. The funding was not awarded from the Province; however, this program will be funded from TCHC's base budget, subject to TCHC Board approval.
- Table 1 lists the City unfunded prevention and intervention actions approved by Council on July 23, 2018.

TABLE 1 – NCPS Funding Requests by City Divisions

City Unfunded Actions Project Title	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	NCPS Grant Applied
*Community Healing	1,281,319	1,284,079	1,294,567	1,305,196	1,327,468	6,492,627
More Life Skills	752,974	718,704	729,427	799,175	765,342	3,765,622
Community Safety & Wellbeing Expansion	1,052,250	1,076,400	1,101,700	1,125,850	1,150,000	5,506,200
TO Wards Peace	1,292,457	1,301,151	1,309,921	1,318,770	1,327,700	6,550,000
Violence Prevention: programming to support vulnerable youth (aka Link Connect)	1,089,428	1,104,194	1,121,871	1,138,790	1,156,114	5,610,398
Parks, Forestry and Recreation	890,476	938,095	952,381	966,667	977,534	4,725,153
Subtotal Request						32,650,000
*Community Healing project has been Funded						-6,492,627
Total Request Unfunded						26,157,373

- Table 2 lists the TCHC and TPS unfunded enforcement actions approved by Council on July 23, 2018.

TABLE 2 – NCPS Funding Requests by City Agencies: TCHC and TPS

TCHC and TPS Unfunded Actions Project Title	Federal Request	Provincial Request
TCHC Expansion of Dan Harrison Pilot Expansion of 24/7 CSU Officer coverage to 10 high risk neighbourhoods for a total of 11 neighbourhoods, plus supervision and Intelligence Analyst		\$5,039,000
TPS: Expansion of CCTV Program (from 34 to 74)	\$4,000,000	\$3,550,000
TPS: ShotSpotter: technology that detects and alerts police of gunshots	\$3,660,000	\$3,060,000
TCHC Total Request Unfunded		\$5,039,000
TPS Total Request Unfunded	\$7,660,000	\$6,610,000

- As part of their gun violence strategy, TPS applied for additional funding to the Federal government that went beyond the actions approved by Council on July 23, 2018. Table 3 outlines the initiatives that have been submitted to the Federal Government but have not been funded.

**TABLE 3 – Additional Initiatives submitted by TPS to the Federal Government under the
National Crime Prevention Strategy Grant**

Initiatives submitted by TPS to the National Crime Prevention Strategy	Federal Request
Neighbourhood Youth Gang Intervention & Intelligence Strategy	\$4,121,000
Enhancement of Neighbourhood Officer Program	\$7,500,000
Toronto Cyber Bullying Reduction Program	\$3,000,000
Total Request Unfunded	\$14,621,000

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