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2022 CAPITAL BUDGET BRIEFING NOTE

Update on Circular Economy Partnerships Secured in 2021

Issue/Background:

- At its meeting on June 8, 2021, Toronto City Council adopted the recommendations of item IE22.8, Partnership Authority to Support Toronto's Circular Economy Outcomes. The report recommendations generated no immediate financial implications because the authorities requested were captured in the Solid Waste Management Services Division approved budget as part of the Long Term Waste Management Strategy. Any future financial impacts would be considered as part of the City's annual budget process.
- Through the report, Solid Waste Management Services Division committed to include an annual briefing note as part of future year budget submissions to advise Council of the program's progress. To that end, this briefing note provides an overview of partnerships entered into by the General Manager of Solid Waste Management Services in 2021 to advance the City of Toronto's circular economy outcomes.

Key Points:

- By adopting item IE22.8, Partnership Authority to Support Toronto's Circular Economy Outcomes, Toronto City Council delegated the following authority to the General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services:
 - City Council authorize the General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services to negotiate, enter into, and execute agreements, as may be required, with local, regional, national, and international non-profit, public, and private sector organizations to provide in-kind and/or financial support from the approved Solid Waste Management Services budget where it is determined that the project or initiative will advance the City's aspirational circular economy goals, on such terms and conditions satisfactory to the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.
- Circular economy strategies consider resource consumption and material efficiency for their potential impacts on climate change, environmental degradation, and social outcomes. The City of Toronto is striving to deliver benefits to Toronto residents, industries, and communities by working toward several desired circular economy outcomes, including:
 - Waste reduction, including reduction and diversion of waste streams not managed by the City of Toronto's Integrated Waste Management System;

- Economic prosperity for a green and equitable pandemic recovery, including green sector development and local supply chain resilience;
 - Local emissions reduction to help build more resilient, low-carbon neighbourhoods;
 - Enhanced well-being, equity and community activation fostered through partnerships with local agencies and non-profit organizations; and,
 - Strengthened local innovation ecosystems to support local businesses and innovators to develop and scale circular business models.
- On August 4, 2021, the General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services executed an agreement with the National Zero Waste Council (NZWC) to participate in Term 2 of the Love Food Hate Waste (LFHW) Canada campaign. The three-year term is effective until June 30, 2024.
 - LFHW is a Canada-wide consumer behavior-change campaign run by the NZWC and is a key deliverable of its National Food Waste Reduction Strategy. The City is a member of the NZWC, including its Food Working Group, and has been an LFHW Campaign Partner since 2018.
 - The campaign aligns with the City of Toronto's Long Term Waste Management Strategy, particularly the development and implementation of a Food Waste Reduction Strategy. Food waste reduction initiatives support the circular economy principle of decreasing demand on limited natural resources required to generate food, especially consumption by urban residents. Preventing wasted food reduces the need and cost for local governments and businesses to manage organic waste, while also reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste management and disposal.

Questions & Answers:

What are the budget implications of the 2021 Circular Economy Partnerships?

- As a LFHW Campaign Partner, the City of Toronto will contribute an annual Servicing and Sub-Licensing Fee of \$22,000 for Year 1 and \$42,000 per year for Years 2 and 3. The total value of the financial commitment is \$106,000.
- The Servicing and Sub-Licensing Fee of \$22,000 for Year 1 of Term 2 of the LFHW campaign partnership were covered by the approved 2021 Solid Waste Management Services Budget. The \$42,000 fee required for Year 2 of Term 2 is included in the 2022 Solid Waste Management Services budget submission under CSW013-03.

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