

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – APRIL 4TH, 2005

REQUEST TO FILL CONTRACT POSITION (12 MONTHS) GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) ANALYST

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Economic/Technology Development and Communications, in consultation with the Director of Information Technology (IT) Services, recommends:

1. That the hiring of a contract GIS Analyst for twelve (12) months be approved.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to receive Council approval to hire a contract GIS Analyst for a period of twelve (12) months.

Background - Analysis and Options

In 2001, Council approved a 3 year strategy to implement an enterprise Geographic Information Systems (GIS). As part of the approved strategy, additional staffing to support the GIS was identified.

The strategy identified the need for one (1) project manager, and four (4) technical/support staff. In addition to these complements, the strategy also identified the need for “outsourced services” to address maintenance and training needs for GIS. Currently, there is one (1) project manager and two (2) technical/support staff in place.

Over the past 3 years, many GIS applications have been developed for use in the planning, engineering, finance, building & facilities, parks and economic development departments. These applications cannot be properly deployed and supported due to lack of technical and support staff.

Funds were allocated in the Information Technology (IT) Services department 2005 operating budget for professional assistance with GIS support. The hiring of a GIS Analyst for a period of twelve (12) months would be a cost-effective way to obtain the much needed support for GIS applications.

Without the additional support resources, the developed GIS applications would continue to be poorly supported and underutilized by the organization. This puts a great risk on the investment the City made over the past 3 years in GIS.

To protect the significant investment into GIS applications and to ensure that the envisioned benefits of the GIS strategy are realised, it is recommended that a contract GIS Analyst position be approved.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

Planning and Managing Growth – continual renewal and scalability of computing facilities, driven by municipal growth, enables staff to achieve higher levels of efficiency, effectiveness and customer service;

Technology and Innovation – use of information technology enables staff to effectively address various business and citizens service issues.

The recommendations made in this report and related initiatives are consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated.

Conclusion

To protect the significant investment into GIS applications and to ensure that the envisioned benefits of the GIS strategy are realised, it is recommended that a contract GIS Analyst position be approved.

Funding for this contract position is included in the approved Information Technology Services Department 2005 Operating Budget.

Attachments

None

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Respectfully submitted,

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