

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MAY 21ST, 2002

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM INITIATIVES

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services in consultation with the Commissioner of Corporate Services and the Executive Director of Buildings, Facilities and Parks recommends:

That an amount of \$5,000 per ward from the Streetscaping and Park Planting/Furniture capital item be allocated to the Communities in Bloom initiatives.

Purpose

To obtain Council authorization to allocate the sum of \$5,000 per ward from the Streetscaping and Park Planting/Furniture capital item for Communities in Bloom initiatives.

Background - Analysis and Options

On December 18, 2001, Council approved Vaughan's participation in the Communities in Bloom program. No funds were allocated for 2002, as this year was to a preparatory year and 2003 would be the first year of participation in the Communities in Bloom participation.

Community groups have been in contact with staff regarding the Communities in Bloom initiative and have been inquiring whether monies are available from the City of Vaughan for community based beautification programs. The Parks Department has monies in the budget to plant and maintain flowers in various areas of the City, however does not have funds available to assist these groups. In 2003, staff will include the Communities in Bloom initiative as part of the operating budget process in order to secure monies for this project.

The approved capital budget includes funds in the amount of \$65,000 (\$40,000 for streetscaping and \$25,000 for park planting/ furniture) for each of the five wards to provide for streetscaping and park planting/furniture. Staff would like to have Council's approval to secure \$5,000 out of the total amount of \$65,000 (per ward) in order to assist community groups with their Communities in Bloom initiatives as well as dealing with any incidental costs related to the initiatives.

Conclusion

As part of Council's continuing support of the Communities in Bloom initiative, staff is requesting that funds in the amount of \$5,000 per ward be allocated from the Streetscaping and Park Planting/Furniture capital item.

Attachments

None

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Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioner of Community Services