

UPDATE FOR BILL 124 – (NEW BUILDING CODE ACT)

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Planning recommends that the report be received for information.

Purpose

To respond to a request from the City's Budget Committee for a report

Background - Analysis and Options

In the 2nd quarter of 2004 the Finance department initiated a separate study to review activity costing of user fees, permit fees and service charges. This study addresses the revenue/fee justification and budget impacts of Bill 124 in an aggregate manner. The report "Activity Based Costing Methodology for User Fees" has now been completed and will be the subject of a future report and recommendations to the Budget Committee. Bill 124 takes effect July 2005.

In addition to the Finance study, Building Standards has undertaken a study to address other aspects of Bill 124. As previously reported to the Operational and Strategic Planning Committee on September 21, 2004, as part of the approval of the 2004 Operating Budget, additional monies were allocated to the Building Standards Department to hire a consultant to assist in the analysis and impacts of Bill 124. The consultant has been hired by the City and the study is ongoing. As part of the Bill 124 Impacts Study, there will be a final report with recommendations regarding necessary changes to departmental processes and staffing to meet mandated turnaround times and other new statutory requirements. The building permit fee structure is an item that is being addressed during this Bill 124 Impact Study.

The final implementation of the building permit fee structure will be through amendments to the City's Building and Fee By-Laws when all processes and related costs are known.

The following is a brief timeline for the Bill 124 Impact Study:

Completion of the business processes review	- end of Dec./04
Completion of Workload and Capacity analysis	- end of Jan./05
Final Report with recommendations	- mid Feb./05.
Final amendments to Building/Fee By-Laws	- mid Mar./05

The Budget Committee, at its meeting of March 5, 2004, recommended that:

"Staff provide the Intergovernmental Relations Committee relevant information that could assist in requesting a repeal of portions of the Bill 124 legislations, as it relates to the mandated building permit processing times."

The Intergovernmental Committee at its meeting of April 15, 2004 considered a memorandum dated April 8, 2004 from the Commissioner of Planning respecting the above. At the meeting there were various discussions surrounding Bill 124 including how various committees and groups had approached the former government in an attempt have portions modified. The draft legislation (Bill 124) was brought into full force and effect basically without any modifications.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved to undertake the study. This matter will be subject of further reports to Budget Committee and Council for their consideration.

Conclusion

This status report be received for information purposes.

Attachments

None

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Respectfully submitted,

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