

2005 Draft Operating Budget**Recommendation**

The City Manager, the Commissioner of Finance & Corporate Services and the Director of Budgeting and Financial Planning recommends:

- 1) That the Budget Committee select a date for a Council meeting to approve the 2005 Operating and Capital Budgets;
- 2) That staff be directed to provide appropriate notice of the Council meeting to adopt the 2005 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Purpose

The purpose of this report to request the Budget Committee to select a date for a Council meeting to approve the 2005 Operating and Capital Budgets that provides sufficient time to meet the public notice requirement.

Background - Analysis and Options

S291(1) of the New Municipal Act requires that a municipality give public notice of its intention to adopt the operating and capital budgets at a council meeting that is specified in the notice. In addition, the City of Vaughan by-law 394-2002 requires 14 days public notice to adopt the operating and capital budgets.

Although public notice was given for the Special Committee of the Whole public meeting of January 24, 2005, no Council date had been set for approving the budgets. Accordingly, staff recommend that a Council meeting date be set to approve the 2005 Operating and Capital Budgets and that appropriate public notice be provided.

Appropriate public notice is at least 14 days prior to the date of the Council meeting that approves the budgets. Since Vaughan's public notices are published in the Thursday newspapers, it is necessary to have the notice provided to the Corporate Communications department by Tuesday of the week the notice is to be published. This means that the Council date approving the budgets must be set almost 3 weeks in advance and may require a special council meeting.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision

This report is consistent with the priorities set out in Vaughan Vision 2007.

Conclusion

Providing public notice of Council's intention to adopt the 2005 Operating and Capital Budgets is a requirement of the new Municipal Act.

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