

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 1, Report No. 3, of the Budget Committee, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 23, 2009, as follows:

By approving the following in accordance with the memorandum from the Director of Economic Development, dated March 20, 2009:

“That Council endorses the 2009 Communities in Bloom National Conference Operating Budget as amended to reflect up-dated 2009 Revenues and Expenditures for the project.”

By receiving the report of the Director of Economic Development, dated March 9, 2009.



1 COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM (CIB) 2009 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Budget Committee recommends that this matter be referred to the Council meeting of March 23, 2009.

Recommendation

The Director of Economic Development in consultation with the City Manager recommends:

THAT the 2009 Communities in Bloom National Conference operating budget be amended to reflect the up-dated 2009 Revenues & Expenditures for this project as per noted on following chart.

Economic Impact

There are no requirements for new funding associated with the 2009 CIB National Conference. However, this amendment is required in order to properly indicate that both revenues and expenditures for the project have increased, but the net impact remains the same.

Communications Plan

None Required

Purpose

To request that the 2009 Communities in Bloom (CIB) National Conference budget be amended to reflect recent updates to the CIB Program.

Background - Analysis and Options

On December 12, 2005, Council approved the Budget Committee report “Hosting of the 2009 CIB National Conference.” The Budget committee recommended that staff explore opportunities to increase sponsorship contributions from \$50,000 to \$100,000. City staff was to continue working on securing sponsorship dollars as outlined above in order to ensure the successful execution of the CIB Project. However, despite the current economic downturn impacting on Vaughan’s business community, staff continues to work diligently and remain steadfast to strive in achieving the goal of raising \$100K. The other factor critical to the success of the project was the start date which should have taken place in mid-late summer of 2008.

In November 2008, the CIB Project was rejuvenated with a focus that the CIB project was determined a high priority event and of great importance to the City of Vaughan.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 1, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 2

Further to the original approved budget of \$200K (\$30K-'07; \$70K-'08 and; \$100K-'09) for the CIB Project, the Economic Development Department has amended the revenues and expenditures to properly reflect recent updates to the CIB Program. The CIB project scope has expanded and thus slightly increasing the expenditures. Revenues have also expanded to include provincial marketing and tourism grant dollars. However, as of March 09, 2009, these funds have not been awarded.

The following chart is to illustrate 2009 Actual Revenues and Expenditures for the project.

Communities in Bloom 2009 National Conference Draft Budget

Component	Original 09 Budget	Revised 09 Budget	Variance	Comments
Revenues				
CIB Registrations	80,000	64,000	16,000	800 delegates instead 1000
Sponsorship	142,500	86,000	56,500	Donor fatigued & economic times
Provincial Grant		150,000		
Total Revenues	222,500	300,000	77,500	Other potential venues
Expenditures				
2009 Base	100,000	100,000		
Extra		77,500	77,500	
ARR	222,500	222,500		
Total Expenditures	322,500	400,000	77,500	Expanded CIB program
Net Impact	100,000	100,000		

Above figures include both original 2009 base budget and Additional Resource Request Figures

Notes: The following additional revenues associated with the project have not been realized yet

1. CIB Registration is based on 800 delegates x \$80.00/person
2. Submitted Provincial Tourism & Marketing Grants totaling \$150K have not been awarded

Expenditures (breakdown):

Following is a breakdown of the main expenditures associated with the CIB Project.

<u>Component:</u>	<u>Budget:</u>
Transportation	\$70K
Multicultural Festival	\$57K
Conference Execution/Rollout	\$42.5K
Closing Gala & Chair's Reception	\$150K
Other Project Items value	\$83.75K
<u>Total Project Costs</u>	<u>\$403,250</u>

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council. Specifically, this report conforms to Vaughan Vision 2020: Plan and Manage Growth & Economic Vitality.

Regional Implications

York Region Tourism staff has already been made aware of the CIB National Conference for information purposes and support wherever possible.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 1, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 3

Conclusion

This report is to request that the 2009 CIB Budget amendments be approved and to also note that the net impact remains the same.

Report prepared by:

Michael Nepinak, Director of Economic Development

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 2

funding to carry out the work plan identified below. Relevant external stakeholders include architects, designers, planning consultants, engineering consultants, developers, builders, York Region, PowerStream, neighbouring municipalities, and the Toronto Region Conservation Authority. Mailings, E-newsletters, workshops or other approaches will be employed for outreach to ensure adequate stakeholder consultation in the development of the Sustainable Development Evaluation criteria.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of a work plan to develop a framework for measuring the sustainability performance of development applications, currently known as Sustainable Development Evaluation. The development of such a framework is an identified action plan in the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan. While components of the Official Plan review process and Focus Area Studies will include aspects of sustainable community design and sustainable built form on a City-wide or area basis, the focus of this effort is to develop evaluation criteria that can be applied through the development review process at the site and neighbourhood level.

Background - Analysis and Options

Previous Action

On October 9, 2007, The Environment Committee recommended “that staff provide a report to the Environment Committee outlining such strategy that includes energy conservation, water conservation, waste management and other aspects of development.” The recommendation was a response, in part, to a presentation on the York Region program, Sustainable Development Through LEED™, adopted by York Region Council at its meeting of June 21, 2007. A separate report on this topic is planned to come forward to Council at the February 23rd 2009, Committee of the Whole, Working Session. While the Environment Committee made several recommendations related to LEED™ and sustainability, this report responds to the broader recommendation, as cited above, to reduce ecological footprints of development. As a result, this report presents a structured approach to implement a variety of sustainability measures through the development review process to address energy conservation, water conservation, waste reduction, sustainable materials, and natural heritage enhancement.

Relationship to Community Sustainability & Environmental Master Plan and Official Plan Review

This report presents one approach to implement sustainable development measures. The Community Sustainability & Environmental Master Plan (CSEMP) will address the social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainability by delivering a framework of goals, objectives and action plans to guide the City’s operational and regulatory functions. The Official Plan Review is the appropriate policy forum to address critical issues that include, but are not limited to, urban form, livability, and mobility. Policies and actions that address short-term and long-term targets will be more comprehensively addressed in these broader policy planning initiatives. This report presents a structured approach to implement a variety of sustainability measures through the development review process that can be implemented prior to the finalization of the Official Plan. Revision of the criteria for sustainable development evaluation should occur on an ongoing basis, but particularly once the CSEMP is completed so that the structure of the sustainable development criteria is consistent with the framework of the CSEMP.

Policy Basis for Sustainable Development Evaluation Criteria

Two recent pieces of provincial legislation, the Planning and Conservation Land Statute Law Amendment Act and the Places to Grow Act, provide most of the policy support for implementing a sustainable development evaluation protocol Site Plan and Plan of Subdivision review. Key components of the legislation are described below.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 3

1. The Planning and Conservation Land Statute Law Amendment Act 2006 (Bill 51)

As identified in the January 21, 2008 Report to the Committee of the Whole, The Planning and Conservation Land Statute Law Amendment Act 2006 (Bill 51) provides several opportunities to integrate sustainability initiatives into the planning process, including:

- (i) Community Improvement Planning for efficient use of land and energy conservation;
- (ii) Site Plan Control provisions for the exterior design features of buildings as well as the ability to secure streetscape improvements to encourage sustainable design; and
- (iii) Consideration in a Plan of Subdivision and Site Plan for energy conservation and supply as well as sustainable transportation alternatives to support public transit and be oriented to pedestrians.

The Development Planning Department has established a working group to implement the provisions of Bill 51 with particular focus on defining a “complete application”. The Sustainable Development Evaluation criteria can be included as a required form to be prepared by the applicant for each development application in order to provide a “complete application”.

2. Places to Grow Act

The Table below summarizes the sustainability provisions in the Places to Grow Act as articulated in the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal 2006). Municipalities can amend official plans to integrate these measures in policy. The column at the left, “Sustainability Theme”, is a proposed categorization of the policies in the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe that provides a more straight-forward classification of sustainability measures as it may apply to development application review.

Sustainability Theme	Sustainability Measure	Places to Grow Reference	Places to Grow Issue
Community Design and Built Form	Efficient use of land	2.2.3.6	Intensification targets
	Mixed use	2.2.3.7 b)	Intensification areas
		2.2.6.2	Preserving employment areas
		2.2.7.1 c)	Greenfield
		2.2.3.7 c)	Intensification areas
Improved Mobility	Optimized existing and new infrastructure	3.2.5	Water and wastewater systems
	Built heritage and cultural landscapes	3.2.6	Community infrastructure
		4.2.4.1 e)	Cultural heritage conservation
		2.2.3.7 d)	Intensification areas
		2.2.5	Major transit stations
Transit-supportive communities	Reducing the dependence on the automobile	3.2.3	Intensification areas
		2.2.7.1 b) and d)	Greenfield
		3.2.2.1 b)	Transportation infrastructure
		3.2.2.3 b)	Transportation corridors
		3.2.3.3	Integrated pedestrian and bicycle networks

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 4

Resource Conservation	Reduced consumption	3.2.5.4 a)	Water and wastewater systems
		4.2.4.1 a)	Water conservation
		4.2.4.1 b)	Energy conservation
		4.2.4.1 c)	Air quality
		4.2.4.1 d)	Integrated waste management
Natural Habitats and Open Space	Natural heritage system	4.2.1.3	Natural heritage features
	Connected open space	4.2.1.4	Accessible open space system

Examples from Other Municipalities of Evaluation of Sustainable Development Measures at Development Review

1. Markham Centre Performance Measures

Markham Centre is envisioned as a model for smart growth that began with a public consultation process in 1992 and resulted in the Markham Centre Secondary Plan (OPA 21) being adopted by Markham Council in 1994. As described in the Performance Measures Document (Town of Markham 2004, as amended), Markham Centre is designed to have “a distinctly urban character, with higher density, mixed-use developments, strong streetscapes and world-class parks and public amenities”. There are 11 guiding principles for Markham Centre developments. These have been further defined into 64 performance measures under 5 categories, which are intended to further articulate the objectives for Markham Centre and provide a clear direction of expectations for development. The performance measures within each of the five categories identified below also reflect potential relationships to LEED Canada NC 1.0:

- (i) greenlands (natural environment);
- (ii) transportation;
- (iii) built form;
- (iv) green infrastructure (sustainable technology for resource conservation); and
- (v) public space (including parks and public art).

An Advisory Committee of 20 to 25 people representing ratepayer groups, academia, development and business interests evaluate the sustainability performance of development applications based on an applicant’s self-assessment to the Performance Measures. The Staff reports to Council concerning individual applications include the Advisory Committee’s evaluation of the proposal’s adherence to the Performance Measures.

2. North Oakville East Secondary Plan and Sustainability Checklist

The North Oakville East Secondary Plan, which establishes the Town’s vision for North Oakville, commits the Town to the principle of sustainable development. Their sustainability checklist (Town of Oakville 2008) is critical to assess sustainable features of planned developments and ensure ongoing commitment to sustainable development in the Plan. It has been divided into four principles of sustainability, as defined in the North Oakville East Secondary Plan:

- (i) development form;
- (ii) air quality/energy efficiency;
- (iii) water management; and
- (iv) the natural heritage system.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 5

The sustainability checklist applies to all of north Oakville lands. It is identified in pre-consultation meetings as a requirement to be prepared by the applicant in order to submit a complete application. Elements of the sustainability checklist that have policies in the official plan are mandatory. Discretionary items of the sustainability checklist that have been met by project proponents are recognized in staff reports to Council on development applications.

3. City of Pickering Sustainable Development Guidelines

The Sustainable Neighbourhood Plan is a project of the City of Pickering triggered in part by the planning process for the Seaton lands and the new Official Plan review. Two main guidelines were produced in May 2007 for further consideration following consultants' reports and stakeholder discussion (Dillon Consulting, Bogdan and Associates Inc. and Halsall 2007). The Neighbourhood Guideline is applied at the equivalent to a secondary plan or block plan scale. The second guideline operates at plan of subdivision, site plan, rezoning and building permit level. The two guidelines are structured using the same main categories, but recognize different outcomes consistent with the scale of the development application. There are 9 categories in the sustainable development guidelines:

- (i) Pre-consultation
- (ii) Environmental protection
- (iii) Location of development/selection of lands
- (iv) Design of development, land use and distribution
- (v) Design of development, density and compact built form
- (vi) Design of development, connections
- (vii) Design of development, pedestrian-oriented community
- (viii) Resource efficiency
- (ix) Evolution/monitoring.

The Guidelines are being used informally as a resource by staff on a City-wide basis in the development review process. The Guidelines are explicitly noted in all pre-consultation meetings and all application forms request that applicants submit a report outlining the sustainability elements contained in the proposal. In the Duffins Heights Neighbourhood, a Council resolution requires applicants to submit a report outlining how the report is consistent with the Sustainable Development Guidelines when submitting applications. Similar language is being used in an official plan amendment for the Neighbourhood. As part of the City's Official Plan Review, a city-wide policy approach on sustainable development will be established.

While the Sustainable Development Guidelines are intended to improve new development, City of Pickering staff also developed a draft neighbourhood scorecard in order to evaluate the sustainability of established neighbourhoods. As a result, changes such as infill development, completing trail networks, park improvements, tree planting, or improving sidewalks could improve the overall neighbourhood score in established neighbourhoods.

4. Toronto Green Development Standards

The Toronto Green Development Standards (TGDS) applies to municipal buildings and is designed to encourage sustainable development in the private sector. The focus of the TGDS is on measurable targets (e.g. 20% canopy cover at maturity), actual outcomes that allow flexibility in achieving the outcomes (e.g. 25% energy savings above Model National Energy Code) and the design and construction of the built form rather than on building operations and workplace programs.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 6

The TGDS includes over 30 development features and targets structured in 6 categories:

- (i) air quality,
- (ii) greenhouse gas emissions/energy efficiency,
- (iii) water quality,
- (iv) water efficiency,
- (v) solid waste, and
- (vi) ecology.

Different performance targets and indicators are identified for high- and mid-rise buildings versus low-rise residential dwellings.

Selecting Sustainable Development Evaluation Criteria to Reflect Environmental Priorities

Any improvement in the sustainability performance of urban development is valuable. However, there is a need to ensure that priority areas for action that will have a significant positive benefit are being addressed. Environmental priorities are suggested below based on (1) a review of relevant ecological footprint assessments, (2) a scan of priorities identified by the environmental not-for-profit community and (3) the 2008 report of the Greening Greater Toronto Initiative. The details of the scan are provided below while the environmental priorities can be summarized as follows:

- (i) Complete Communities (compact and transit-supportive urban form);
- (ii) Improved Mobility (transit and active transportation);
- (iii) Climate Protection (energy conservation and clean energy);
- (iv) Clean Air;
- (v) Waste Reduction and Integrated Waste Management;
- (vi) Water Conservation and Clean Water;
- (vii) Greenspace (natural heritage, open space and urban parks).

1. Ecological Footprint

Our global ecological footprint, measured using 2003 data, is about 2.2 hectares per person (WWF Living Planet Index 2006). This is a measure of the area of biologically productive land and water needed to provide ecological resources and services – food, fibre, and timber, land on which to build, and land to absorb carbon dioxide (CO₂) released by burning fossil fuels. The average Canadian resident has a footprint of 7.25 hectares while the footprint of York Region residents is over 8 hectares per person (Wilson and Anielski 2005).

The Earth's *biocapacity*, which is about 1.8 hectares per person (WWF Living Planet Index), is the amount of biologically productive area – cropland, pasture, forest, and fisheries – that is available to meet humanity's needs. Hence, looking only at global averages, our footprint already exceeds the earth's carrying capacity by 25%. Indeed, we would need three planets to meet our consumptive lifestyles if everyone lived as the average York Region resident.

A recent application of ecological footprint to household income (Mackenzie et al. 2008) reveals some key priority areas to reduce ecological footprints related to urban development. For all income brackets, food consumption and housing make up the largest parts of our ecological footprint compared to mobility, goods consumptions, and services consumption. However, for lower-income households, food and housing account for more than 70% of the ecological footprint while these two items account for 45% of the footprint of the highest-income households.

Next to housing, the largest footprint for higher-income households is mobility. Personal vehicle use accounts for 80% of this footprint while purchased transportation (air, rail, bus and water travel) comprise the remainder.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 7

Given that the median household income in Vaughan is relatively high compared to other municipalities in the GTA, that over 70% of dwellings are single detached homes and that over 80% of residents commute by personal vehicle (Statistics Canada 2001), we can suggest that the lifestyle characteristics with the largest ecological footprint for Vaughan residents are housing, mobility and food consumption. While sustainable development measures cannot directly address food consumption, strategies such as local and sustainable food programs can be addressed through the Community Sustainability & Environmental Master Plan and in Official Plan policies. Of more relevance for this discussion, however, sustainable development criteria can be developed to lower the ecological footprint (a) of commuting mode and (b) for construction and ongoing energy consumption and maintenance of dwellings and other built form. Therefore, reducing footprints in these areas requires, among other initiatives:

- (i) urban design, including vegetation and soft surfaces, for passive solar gain in winter and passive cooling in summer,
- (ii) energy conservation and reduction in fossil carbon consumption,
- (iii) lower embodied energy of materials used for built form and personal vehicles,
- (iv) increase in active transportation,
- (v) long life and adaptive re-use of built form, and
- (vi) improved recycling and use of reclaimed materials in construction practices.

2. Priorities of the Environmental Community

Thirteen environmental groups based in Ontario identified six environmental priority areas for action (<http://www.prioritiesforontario.ca/news/20070319>): (1) conservation of the boreal forest; (2) implementation of a clean, green provincial electricity plan; (3) safeguarding the Greenbelt and strengthening policies to stop urban sprawl and protect greenspace across southern Ontario; (4) adoption of a pollution-fighting Pollution and Cancer Prevention Act; (5) establishment of a Great Lakes Protection Plan and full implementation of the recommendations of the Walkerton Inquiry; and (6) a comprehensive provincial waste reduction strategy.

As the priorities were intended for the diverse landscapes of Ontario, a translation of the priorities for southern municipalities includes:

- (i) maintaining and enhancing natural spaces;
- (ii) maintaining and enhancing water quality and quantity;
- (iii) improving air quality;
- (iv) climate protection; and
- (v) waste reduction.

3. Greening Greater Toronto Initiative

The Greening Greater Toronto Initiative is a project of the Toronto City Summit Alliance and includes a wide variety of collaborators in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, including representatives for Durham, York and Peel Regional Municipalities. A June 2008 report (Toronto City Summit Alliance 2008) identified five priorities:

- (i) reduced carbon/greenhouse gas emissions;
- (ii) clean air;
- (iii) clean water;
- (iv) reduction and effective management of waste and
- (v) sustainable land use and expanded greenspace.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 8

Feedback from the Development Community

There have been two stakeholder sessions specifically for the development community related to green building and sustainable community design. City of Vaughan staff organized a workshop on October 20th at Kortright Centre supported by PowerStream, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, BILD, the Canadian Green Building Council and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. City of Vaughan staff and their consultants, Urban Strategies Inc., organized a workshop at Eagle's Nest Golf Club on November 27th to obtain feedback on the 8 "vision principles" of the "Vision for Transformation" framework of the Official Plan review process. Key feedback from the two sessions can be summarized below.

- (i) Green building is recognized as a higher initial capital cost with lower ongoing maintenance costs. While some developers are creating a market niche for green buildings (e.g. Tridel, Minto) and are able to pass along cost increases, raising the overall level of sustainability performance will require that municipalities provide incentives to developers and builders. Fast-tracking approvals is often recognized as a more useful incentive than financial incentives such as rebates on permits and development charges, although both may be useful.
- (ii) There may be other innovative financial incentives to developers than direct incentives. For example, utilities can assume electrical infrastructure costs sooner rather than 4 to 5 years after build-out. This is often linked to the process by which the Local Municipality assumes infrastructure and/or to phased development.
- (iii) Consumer awareness of the environmental and health benefits of sustainable built form is still limited to a niche market. Municipalities can play a role in raising the awareness of the need to address the environmental and health benefits of sustainable built form and sustainable community design.
- (iv) Consumers are often suspicious of green technology recommendations from builders. This can easily create the perception that the builders are receiving a side benefit from a particular set of technologies. While builders must work to improve the transparency of their product, such as through third-party verification of sustainability performance, municipalities can also address this issue in awareness campaigns that present objective information about green building.
- (v) Resale homes and buildings are a larger share of the overall market and are often not addressed in green building policies, but through a hodge-podge of retrofit incentive programs. A more coordinated effort to address sustainability retrofits could have more impact on reducing ecological footprints than a narrow focus on new buildings.
- (vi) In addition to the usual barriers of change related to cost and lack of trained professionals, there are disincentives to green building that are counter-intuitive. For example, implementing green technologies can increase the property tax assessment and result in higher taxes from higher MPAC assessment values.
- (vii) Some of the most practical sustainability measures are not observable to buyers and home owners. For example, the most difficult component to pass the Energy Star evaluation is the air tightness test, which simply requires attention to detail when installing the vapour barrier and reduced thermal bridges during framing and exterior cladding. More training of the trades is necessary. Alternatively, a sustainable performance system can be flexible such that inability to meet a particular component can be offset by improved performance in another aspect of the system.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 9

- (viii) A sustainability checklist or framework should be flexible and focus on outcomes, not prescriptions. In this regard, using the term 'standards' can create a negative perception as this implies a prescriptive approach whereas outlining a framework of guidelines allows builders to select sustainability measures.
- (ix) Implementation of a sustainability performance checklist or framework is improved if there is also an integrated design process where the developer and municipality can discuss concepts that can streamline approval and improve sustainability performance.
- (x) A sustainability checklist or framework should be cross-referenced to existing, peer-reviewed systems, such as LEED™ and Energy Star. This way, third-party verification to an independent standard can recognize the relevant components of a City-specific sustainability checklist or framework.
- (xi) There is a need to consider the staff resources that may be required to evaluate and verify sustainability performance measures. Explicitly defining increments of performance improvements in the sustainable development evaluation, whether regarding energy use, water consumption or efficient use of land, can reduce the need for additional time by plans examiners and site plan review.

Proposed Work Plan

A proposal is outlined below to partner with appropriate agencies and seek external funding to undertake necessary further research and conduct appropriate stakeholder consultation in the development of a Sustainable Development Evaluation framework.

1. Formalize Proposal Pending Council Endorsement

Pending Council endorsement to proceed with the development of the Sustainable Development Evaluation framework and criteria, the first step is to write the proposal for prospective funders. The City of Vaughan is unlikely to receive funding directly from foundations. Furthermore, the required funding is for consultants and stakeholder sessions. Hence, the proposal will ideally be written collaboratively with the potential recipients of the funding (consultants) or with a partner from the environmental not-for-profit community who will share the project management responsibilities and add credibility to the proposal. Potential partners include consultants already working on the various Official Plan review components (DPRA, Urban Strategies or AECOM) while potential environmental partners include TRCA, Ontario Nature and the Clean Air Partnership.

Potential funders are described below.

- a) The Metcalf Foundation has funded Environmental Defence to produce a report, "For the Greener Good", that includes many sustainability measures in existing check lists. They also provided funding for Pembina Institute's Ontario Community Sustainability report.

As with most foundations, Metcalf will likely only consider a proposal from a municipality where the municipality is collaborating with other partners. Interestingly, municipal governments may be qualified donees for foundation funding according to the Charities Act. For example, the Town of Caledon together with the Countryside Alliance and a ratepayers group submitted a successful proposal to the Metcalf Foundation.

- b) The McLean Foundation appears to have an open donation policy rather than a structured funding program. Letters of Inquiry can be sent at any time and applicants are then asked to submit a proposal according to application guidelines. The McLean Foundation web site

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 10

breaks down donations into Arts-Music, Arts-Theatre, Arts-Visual, Conservation, Education, General, Health and Welfare. The Town of Caledon received a \$10,000 donation in 2006 under the conservation section.

- c) The focus of the environment program of the EJLB Foundation appears to be on research rather than applied projects. A sample of previously funded projects includes:
- \$100,000 over two years to Environmental Defence to support the Greenbelt Act
 - Canadian Organic Growers,
 - Earth Rangers Foundation,
 - \$150,000 over two years to Inter Pares for education and awareness of sustainable agricultural practices,
 - \$7,500 to Life Spin in London, Ontario for the transformation of a vacant urban lot in the Old East Heritage district of London into a community green space and garden.
- d) The Salamander Foundation has provided funding to projects related to sustainable community design, including \$10,000 to the University of Toronto for the Integrated Land Use, Transport and Environment Model (<http://www.jpint.utoronto.ca/>) and \$35,000 to Sierra Legal Defence Fund for a study of 20 Canadian municipalities on “Creating Environmentally Sustainable Communities” (available from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities web site).
- e) The Max Bell Foundation has provided \$65 million in support of projects in Canada since 1971 with a particular focus on innovation. The current program areas of support for the Foundation include education, health and wellness, environment and a category of special projects. Two environmental projects were supported in 2007 in the areas of watershed management.

2. Research Component and Technical Document

Given the volume of work in this area in the last few years, summarizing existing sustainability frameworks is a straight-forward research exercise. The focus of this component of the work plan is to identify key performance-based outcomes (e.g. energy efficiency, water savings, greenhouse gas savings, etc) or performance increments for each sustainability measure. An appropriate target or range of targets and the conservation and/or human health benefits of achieving the target should be documented for each outcome (e.g. 50% potable water reduction, zero potable water use for irrigation and toilets).

As a next step, the sustainability outcomes and targets need to be cross-referenced against existing policy direction and existing third-party standards (e.g. LEED, Energy Star, Green House). This will provide a categorization of outcomes and targets that either (a) are or should be required as base case or “business as usual” performance (i.e. regulated) or (b) that reflect enhanced sustainability performance (e.g. beyond Building Code requirements).

3. Outreach and Stakeholder Feedback

Stakeholder feedback is important not only to improve the proposed framework, but also to evaluate the process used to develop the framework and generate ideas. This component of the work also acts as an outreach campaign to raise awareness of sustainable community design and sustainable built form.

In addition to the stakeholder sessions, City staff will identify a range of development project examples to test the preliminary evaluation framework. Testing will provide important feedback for the development of a working framework.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 2, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 11

4. Final Sustainable Development Evaluation Framework

Following stakeholder feedback, the final Sustainable Development Evaluation criteria and framework will be presented to Council with appropriate recommendations for further action.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

Lead and Promote Environmental Sustainability

Regional Implications

York Region is developing criteria for sustainable communities under the program, Best Practices for New Communities. The focus of this effort is on new communities rather than the full range of development applications that require servicing allocation and other infrastructure considerations.

Conclusion

This report has been developed to be consistent with the ongoing work of the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan (CS&EMP), but with a focus on a specific set of sustainability initiatives related to development applications following from Council recommendations on October 9, 2007. The Report outlines a work plan to develop a framework for measuring the sustainability performance of development applications, currently known as Sustainable Development Evaluation. The development of such a framework is an identified action plan in the CS&EMP. While components of the Official Plan review process and Focus Area Studies will include aspects of sustainable community design and sustainable built form at City-wide scales, the focus of this effort is to develop evaluation criteria that can be applied through the development review process at the site and neighbourhood level. The primary focus of this effort is to identify quantitative metrics of sustainability and to define measurable increments of sustainability improvement. Continued efforts by Staff to define a “complete application” under Bill 51 will be useful in implementing the Sustainable Development Evaluation criteria. Staff recommend that a capital project entitled “Measuring Environmental Sustainability Performance of Development” in the amount of \$80,000 be included for consideration in the 2009 Capital budget subject to receiving external funding.

Attachments

1. Estimated Time Line and Budget for Work Plan - Measuring Sustainability Performance of Built Form in Development Applications.
2. References - Measuring Sustainability Performance of Built Form in Development Applications.

Report prepared by:

Tony Iacobelli, Senior Environmental Planner, ext. 8630

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 3, Report No. 3, of the Budget Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 23, 2009.

**3 COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MASTER PLAN
PROGRAM BRANDING, PUBLIC LAUNCH AND THE DESIGN, PRODUCTION AND PUBLIC
DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION BOOKLET**

The Budget Committee recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Manager, dated March 9, 2009:

Recommendation

The City Manager, in consultation with the Deputy City Manager and Commissioner of Finance and Corporate Services, the Manager of Corporate Policy and the Manager of Corporate Communications, recommends that:

1. The budget for the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan (CO-0050-07) be increased by \$37,000.00 to provide for: Development of a program brand/name; the program launch; and the design, production and distribution of a public information/promotional document (the "booklet") funded \$33,300.00 from City-Wide Development Charges – Management Studies and \$3,700.00 taxation.
2. The inclusion of this matter on a public Committee or Council agenda for the additional funding request, identified as the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan, is deemed sufficient notice pursuant to Section 2(1)(c) of By-law 394-2002.

Economic Impact

The total request is for \$37,000.00 of which 90% (\$33,300.00) is funded from City-Wide Development Charges – Management Studies with 10% (\$3,700.00) from taxation.

Communications Plan

None required in respect of this report.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to amend the budget for the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan (CO-0050-07) for the purpose of developing a program brand/name; and producing an informational booklet for distribution to the public.

Background – Analysis and Options

The Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan (CSEMP) is a component of the *Vaughan Tomorrow* growth management strategy that will guide the City's growth and development to 2031. Originating with *Vaughan Vision 2020*, the overall program includes the CSEMP, the Official Plan Review and a number of supporting master plans. The purpose of the CSEMP is to guide the City's operational and regulatory functions from a sustainability perspective.

Direction to proceed with the preparation of the plan was received in 2007 and funding was provided in the 2007 Capital Budget. The Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan is nearing completion. On February 24, 2009 the Environment Committee adopted the following recommendation of the City Manager:

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 3, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 2

- 3. Staff report to the Environment Committee on March 23, 2009 for the purpose of obtaining final approval for:
 - a) The Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan, including the preferred name/branding preference, to be submitted to Council for ratification on April 14, 2009;
 - b) The format and content of the public information/promotional document;
 - c) Arrangements for the April 22, 2009 Earth Day launch event for the plan.

Environment Committee also adopted the following:

- 2) That staff provide for consideration at the next Budget Committee meeting the proposed budget for the communication and branding component of the plan;

The main elements of the communications program are the naming and branding of the CSEMP, the Earth Day launch event, the design of a public information/promotional document (the booklet); the printing and distribution of the booklet to the public (by Canada Post) and to City facilities.

The purpose of the booklet is to present the plan in a way that will be more accessible to public. The CSEMP is in excess of 70 pages and has a strong policy orientation. The booklet will explain and summarize the plan, including: Its role in the growth management program; how it operates; its goals, objectives and actions and how it will be implemented. Cost estimates for the booklet are based on it being a colour, eight panel (four sheet) 8 1/2" by 11" foldout, with paper stock equivalent to the 2008 Successes Report.

However, these costs were not included in the original program budget. Additional funds will be required to complete the branding process, the design of the booklet, print the necessary copies and distribute them to the public. The projected costs are as follows.

PROGRAM BRANDING & LAUNCH EVENT	\$10,000.00
(Includes branding development - design and artwork, banners, notification and catering etc)	
DESIGN:	\$ 5,000.00
(Includes booklet development and layout, design to press proofs)	
PRINT RUN OF 80,000:	
(For mail distribution to all Vaughan Households and community centres Libraries etc.)	
	\$12,000.00
DISTRIBUTION:	\$10,000.00
(By Canada Post)	
TOTAL	\$37,000.00

Therefore, it is necessary to receive direction to provide for an additional \$37,000.00 to accommodate this aspect of the communications program.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report is consistent with the following Vaughan Vision objectives:

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 3, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 3

- To Lead and Promote Environmental Sustainability including the development and implementation of the Environmental Master Plan as part the Growth Management Strategy 2031; and
- To Demonstrate Leadership and Promote Effective Governance including establishing and implementing a more effective model for civic engagement and enhancing our public consultation strategy.

Regional Implications

Not applicable.

Conclusion

The measures suggested in the report will bring to completion the public participation process for the preparation of the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan. The branding, public launch and the preparation and distribution of the CSEMP summary booklet are part of the City's on-going effort to communicate with the public and build interest in its strategic programs and support for their implementation. In this instance, the cost of the communication measures is \$37,000.00. It is recommended that funds for this project be provided by way of amendment to the Environmental Master Plan budget (CO-0050-07).

Should Council concur with this proposed additional funding request, this action would be considered as an amendment to the Capital Budget. Pursuant to the Municipal Act before amending a budget, a municipality shall give notice of its intention to amend the budget at a Council meeting. Where a capital project has been subject to a public meeting during the adoption of an approved capital budget and where additional funding is required to complete the approved works, inclusion of the matter in a staff report requesting additional funding on a public Committee or Council agenda is deemed sufficient notice pursuant to Section 2(1)(c) of By-law 394-2002.

Attachments

N/A

Report Prepared by:

Roy McQuillin, Manager of Corporate Policy, ext. 8211

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 4, Report No. 3, of the Budget Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 23, 2009.

4 NEW CAPITAL PROJECT – LOADER MOUNTED SNOW BLOWERS

The Budget Committee recommends:

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, dated March 9, 2009, be approved; and**
- 2) That a report be provided addressing issues raised by Members of Council regarding snow removal.**

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, in consultation with the Director of Reserves and Investments, and the Director of Budgeting and Financial Planning, recommends that:

1. The draft 2009 Capital Budget be amended to include an expenditure of \$380,000 for the purchase of two loader mounted diesel powered snow blowers; and,
2. \$342,00 to come from City-Wide Development Charges, with the remaining \$37,000 to come from the Public Works Winterization Reserve account, and this amount is to be paid back into the account over a 3 year period, starting in 2009, with these funds being generated from reduced contracted expenditures and improved operational efficiencies.

Economic Impact

The cost for each loader mounted snow blower of suitable capacity for Public works is approximately \$185,000, with 2 units being requested. Development charges will only cover 90% of the cost. In order to come up with the remaining 10% without impacting taxation, it is recommended that the \$37,000 be taken from the Winterization Reserve account when the units are purchased, and these funds be paid back into the fund over a 3 year period, starting in 2009. These funds will come from reduced contracted expenditures, and improved operational efficiencies.

Communications Plan

Once these new units are obtained, staff will prepare an article for inclusion in the winter operations update newsletter.

Purpose

To seek approval to add additional winter maintenance equipment to the 2009 draft capital budget to assist Public Works in improving winter snow removal operations.

Background - Analysis and Options

Vaughan is a growing municipality, with its road network increasing annually. The new urbanism has not only added additional kilometers of road to maintain, but it has resulted in reduced pavement widths and the construction of additional rear laneways. The reduced pavement width means less snow storage space, requiring snow to be removed sooner than on the older, wider, streets. When laneways are built with garages on both sides, other than ploughing the snow against the garage doors, snow removal is the only option to deal with large snow accumulations.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 4, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 2

Traditionally, the Public Works Department's snow removal program has been limited to removing the piled up snow from cul-de-sacs, and from rear lanes when snow accumulations reach six inches or more. For the past two years, the City has experienced very heavy snow falls, with total accumulations reaching near record amounts.

The current snow removal program, combined with the large amounts of snow received, has led to numerous complaints from residents. Issues such as reduced pavement width due to the large snow banks on either side of the secondary roads, and the perceived lack of maintenance in rear laneways are the most common complaints.

Like last year, this winter has been no exception. Due to the amount of accumulated snowfall, the growing road network of the City, and the number of complaints raised about the narrowed pavement width, a much wider-spread snow removal program had to be implemented in February of this year. This revised snow removal program used a combination of front end loaders with buckets and loader mounted snow blowers, as well as numerous tri-axle dump trucks, to remove and haul away snow from various secondary streets and laneways across the City.

Snow removal, using front end loaders with buckets, is somewhat of a slow process. The snow must be scraped up in a pile, and then loaded into the trucks. Depending on the distance to the snow disposal site, a loader can keep 3-5 tri-axle dump trucks working steady.

Snow removal with a loader mounted snow blower is much faster and also results in more payload per truck. A mid-sized snow blower that is mounted on a front end loader is capable of blowing between 1,500 – 1,800 tonnes of snow per hour. When the snow is blown into the back of the truck, it is compacted, resulting in heavier payloads, and therefore more snow is taken in each trip to the snow disposal site. Depending on the distance to the snow disposal site, one such blower can easily keep 10 or more tri-axes working steady.

Cost proposals were recently sought from the City's current winter maintenance contractors to have loader mounted blowers available for the winter period. The proposed daily standby rates to have two rental loaders with snow blowers would result in additional standby costs of approximately \$103,500 per winter season. The hourly rental rate for these units runs from \$225 per hour, upward.

The life cycle of these large snow blowers is approximately 20 years, depending upon the amount of use they get each year. Based on the need for this equipment to expedite snow removal operations, and comparing the purchase price against the proposed standby and hourly rental rates, it is clear that the purchase option is the most cost effective in the long term. It also provides the Public Works Department with increased flexibility to better manage its snow removal programs.

Capital Project FL-5104-08 has been previously approved for the purchase of 2 front end loaders for the Public Works Department. When preparing the specifications for these specialized pieces of equipment, Public Works will specify that these new units come with quick attach couplers to accommodate the new snow blowers and other attachments. Should Council approve the purchase of these snow blowers, Public Works will also be specifying the blowers have wireless remote controls to ensure the units are transferable from loader to loader, without the need for hard-wiring the controls in place.

Given that the City's Public Works Department does not currently own a loader mounted snow blower, or any snow blower capable of loading the large dump trucks, it is recommended that the 2009 draft capital budget be amended to include two loader mounted snow blowers, at an estimated cost of \$185,000 each.

At a recent Environment Committee meeting, Dr. Quentin Chiotti of Pollution Probe indicated that the climate is changing, and we are to expect the new summer and winter weather patterns to

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 4, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 3

become more the “norm”. As such, it is expected that larger scale snow removal operations will occur more often in the coming years, and the addition of two loader mounted snow blowers will assist the Public Works Department in managing these large snow accumulations.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This recommendation ties into the Vaughan Vision Goals and Objectives:

Goal: “Service Excellence”
Objective: “Pursue Excellence in Service Delivery.”
Goal: “Management Excellence”
Objective: “Plan and Manage Growth & Economic Vitality”
Goal: “Management Excellence”
Objective: “Enhance Productivity, Cost Effectiveness and Innovation”

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

In order to improve the future efficiency of the Public Works Department’s snow removal process, it is recommended that the 2009 draft capital budget be amended to include two loader mounted snow blowers at an estimated cost of \$185,000 each.

Attachments

N/A

Report prepared by:

Brian T. Anthony

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 5, Report No. 3, of the Budget Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 23, 2009.

5 2007 SUCSESSES REPORT - USER CHARGES VARIANCE EXPLANATION

The Budget Committee recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Director of Financial Services, dated March 9, 2009:

Recommendation

The Director of Financial Services recommends:

That this report be received for information purposes.

Economic Impact

No impact

Communications Plan

Not applicable

Purpose

During the Budget Committee meeting of February 9th, 2009, it was noted that the 2007 User Charges revenue on page 13 of the Successes report was lower than the 2006 User Charges revenue. Following is the explanation of the difference between those years.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Successes report contains a condensed version of the City's consolidated financial statements. These statements reflect the actual financial position and the City's operational and investment activities which include the operating fund, water and wastewater fund, reserve funds, capital fund and the Vaughan Hydro companies including ownership in PowerStream Inc.

The actual User Charges in 2006 totalled \$42.3 million vs. \$36.3 million in 2007 a difference of \$6.0 million. The primary reason for the difference in the 2007 revenues under this category was engineering fees which totalled \$8.1 million in 2006 and \$2.6 million in 2007 a difference of \$5.5 million. These fees relate to development in the City and are raised through fees from subdivision agreements. Engineering fees were unusually high in 2006 due to spine servicing agreements as explained below.

The dramatic increase in engineering revenue in 2006 was due to an increase in spine servicing agreements involving four blocks. These agreements have a large municipal construction component relating to primary roads, storm water management ponds and other servicing infrastructure. The engineering fee is based on construction value and as a result of the spine servicing agreements the fees earned in 2006 were significantly higher. It should also be noted that proceeds from the Engineering fee are allocated to the engineering reserve and withdrawn as required.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 5, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 2

Regional Implications

Not applicable

Conclusion

The difference in User Charges revenues from 2006 to 2007 was the result of Engineering fees. In 2006 Engineering fees increased dramatically due to spine servicing agreements which have a large construction costs component which resulted in significantly higher fees.

Attachments

Not applicable

Report prepared by:

Barry Jackson, CGA
Director of Financial Services
Ext. 8272

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 6, Report No. 3, of the Budget Committee, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 23, 2009, as follows:

By approving the following Clauses from the Special Committee of the Whole (Working Session) (2) meeting of February 27, 2009:

- 1) *That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Director of Corporate Communications, dated February 23, 2009, be approved;*
- 2) *That notices of what categories of information can be found on the City's website continue to be published to the end of the year;*
- 3) *That \$15,000 be allocated for advertising in LoSpecchio;*
- 4) *That staff be directed to report back by the end of July 2009, on any new marketing opportunities presented by the local media to enhance city-wide communications;*
- 5) *That the memoranda from the Director of Corporate Communications, dated February 27, 2009, and the Solicitor, dated February 19, 2009, be received;*
- 6) *That the deputation of Mr. Robert Falbo, Director of Advertising and Distribution, Vaughan Citizen, 8611 Weston Road, Suite 29, Vaughan, L4L 9P1, and submissions, be received; and*
- 7) *That the deputation of Mr. Don Bettger, Director of Group Sales, Vaughan Today, 101 Wingold Avenue, Toronto, M6B 1P8, be received.*

By approving Clause 5 of the Budget Committee recommendation of March 9, 2009, as follows:

- 5) *That a portion of the savings realized from suspending the publication of the City Page in local newspapers be devoted over the balance of the year to publicizing in all local newspapers that have ever received City advertising, the fact that all City-related announcements can be found at the City's website on a 24/7 basis;*

By approving that staff bring back an assessment report at the end of 2009 reviewing the new implemented strategy as it relates to the communications in the local papers and the web page; and

By receiving the report of the Director of Corporate Communications, dated March 9, 2009.

6 CITY PAGE ADVERTISING COSTS AND LAUNCH OF NEW WEBSITE FEATURE

The Budget Committee recommends:

- 1) **That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Director of Corporate Communications, dated March 9, 2009, be approved;**
- 2) **That Council approve the use of the City's website as the primary communications vehicle for the City Page and the practice of publishing the City Page in a print format be discontinued;**
- 3) **That the new City Page content on the website be advertised in local papers in 2009 for a total estimated cost of \$7,000 for one notice placement per week for a total of 26 weeks;**
- 4) **That the savings from this initiative be directed toward ensuring that the new on-line City Page be designed in a user friendly and accessible manner;**

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 6, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 2

- 5) That a portion of the savings realized from suspending the publication of the City Page in local newspapers be devoted over the balance of the year to publicizing in all local newspapers that have ever received City advertising, the fact that all City-related announcements can be found at the City's website on a 24/7 basis; and
- 6) That staff provide a report to the Council meeting of March 23, 2009, on the specifics of the implementation plan regarding the discontinuation of the City Page in print format.

Recommendation

The Director of Corporate Communications, in consultation with the City Manager, recommends:

That this report be received for information purposes.

Economic Impact

There are potential savings in 2009 of \$31,000 by discontinuing City Page print advertisements by July 2009, and moving the City Page content to the City's website.

Communications Plan

Not applicable to this item. There will be a communications strategy to support the transition of the City Page from its current print format to a web format.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to highlight potential savings to the Corporation by discontinuing City Page print advertisements and moving the City Page content to the City's website.

Background - Analysis and Options

An item entitled "City Page Advertising and Notification Options" was submitted to the Committee Of The Whole (Working Session) of February 27, 2008.

The item recommended that Council approve the use of the City's website as the primary communications vehicle for City Page advertisements, including statutory notices; that the practice of publishing City Page advertisements in a print format, placed as paid weekly advertising with local newspapers, be discontinued; and that a transition period of four months from Council approval of this program be implemented, during which time City Page advertisements will continue to be published in local papers and overlap the launch of the new website feature.

The "Economic Impact" statement in the item submitted to the Committee Of The Whole (Working Session) of February 27, 2008 stated:

"The savings in 2009, should the City Page print advertisements be discontinued by July 2009, will be approximately \$53,000. Per annum, there will be savings of approximately \$90,000."

As a result of the Working Session discussion, the following requests directly relate to the economic impact of the reformatted City Page.

1. That the new City Page content on the website be advertised in local papers in 2009. Total estimated cost is \$7,000 for one notice placement per week for a total of 26 weeks.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 6, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 3

2. That \$15,000 be allocated to advertising in Lo Specchio in 2009.

As a result, the economic impact of this initiative will be cost savings of \$31,000 in 2009.

The 2009 advertising budget for the Corporate Communications department can be adjusted from \$108,525 to \$77,525. These funds would be allocated as follows:

City Page placements to June 30, 2009: \$45,315

Advertising in Lo Specchio: \$15,000

Notification ads in local papers from July to December 2009: \$7,000

Council greetings and special one-off advertisements during 2009: \$10,210

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report is consistent with the priorities set forth in Vaughan Vision 2020, specifically in providing service excellence to citizens by pursuing excellence in service delivery and providing excellence in the management of our city by demonstrating leadership and promoting effective governance.

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

Council approval of using the City's website as the primary communications vehicle for City Page advertisements and discontinuing the practice of publishing City Page advertisements in a print format will provide cost savings of \$31,000 in 2009.

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

Madeline Zito, Director of Corporate Communications

Ted Hallas, Manager, Corporate Communications

Please refer to Item 1, Special Committee of the Whole (Working Session) Report No. 11, for further disposition of this matter.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 7, Report No. 3, of the Budget Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 23, 2009.

7 2009 DRAFT OPERATING BUDGET – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUEST

The Budget Committee recommends:

- 1) That Clause 1 of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Manager, Deputy City Manager/Commissioner of Finance & Corporate Services, and the Director of Budgeting & Financial Planning, dated March 9, 2009, be approved; and
- 2) That the 2009 Operating Budget be reduced to achieve a tax rate increase of 2.84%.

Recommendation

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

- 1) That the following report on the 2009 Draft Operating Budget be received for information and discussion purposes, and;
- 2) That the Budget Committee provide direction with respect to the options to be considered to reduce the 2009 Draft Operating Budget tax rate impact of 5.84% (\$64 a year to the average home) to the Budget Committee's targeted range of 2.5% to 3.0% (Roughly \$28 - \$33 a year to the average home).

Economic Impact

The following report responds to the request from the Budget Committee on February 9th, 2009 to reduce the 2009 Draft Operating Budget from a tax rate impact of 5.84% (\$64 a year to the average home) to a rate in the targeted range of 2.5% - 3.0% (Roughly \$28 - \$33 a year to the average home). Various options are presented to achieve a tax rate increase within the provided direction. Depending on the options selected the reduction required would be in the area of \$3.0M to \$4.0M.

Communications Plan

Not required at this point in time. However, a statutory public meeting with appropriate notice is required before adopting the 2009 Budget. This meeting is scheduled for April 7th at 7:00 p.m. and will be advertised in the City Page on March 12th, 20th and 26th.

In addition to the statutory notice a media release will be developed that articulates the policies, strong management practices and oversight that the City currently has in place to manage revenues and expenses and ultimately provides the residents of Vaughan with value for their property tax dollar through high levels of service and a very low property tax in comparison to other municipalities.

Purpose

This report responds to Budget Committee's request for staff to provide opportunities to further reduce the 2009 Draft Operating Budget tax rate increase of 5.84% to a rate in the targeted range of 2.5% - 3.0% and provide additional information with respect to any revenue decreases and the change in corresponding expenditures in relationship to those revenues.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 7, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 2

Background – Analysis and Options

On February 9th, 2009 staff provided a report to Budget Committee illustrating the 2009 Budget next steps and potential budget reductions. This report discussed two key topics, which are summarized below for reference purposes:

Maintaining Service Levels with a Minimum Impact on Taxes

The 2009 Draft Budget is based on budget guidelines that were adopted by the Budget Committee on May 29th, 2008, which was **based on the founding principle to maintain service levels & support Vaughan's Vision with a minimum impact on taxes**. As previously illustrated, more than 50% of the 5.84% tax increase is directly related to community safety and infrastructure repair. The next significant component is to cover the cost increase for contracted services that were tendered and required to maintain levels of service.

Delivering Value For Your Property Tax Dollar

Vaughan takes the management and stewardship of public funds seriously and **increasing property taxes is the last option**. In this regard the City of Vaughan has been very successful. We have consistently had the lowest property rate tax in York Region and one of the lowest property tax rates in the GTA while providing high quality services to the residents of Vaughan. This was possible because for several years the City has had a very rigorous budgetary process that is continually reviewed and refined. That rigorous process includes cost containment, implementing best practices, and demonstrating leadership in financial management.

Budget Committee Direction

On February 9th 2009 the Budget Committee recommended the following:

1. That staff target an increase between 2.5% - 3.0%
2. That staff report back on revenue decreases and the change in corresponding expenditures in relationship to those revenues.

As a result, staff undertook the following analysis with the objective of responding to the above noted direction.

Potential Options to Reduce the Budget

Enclosed in Attachment #1 are a number of options to amend the 2009 Draft Operating Budget tax rate impact to the Budget Committee's targeted range of 2.5% to 3.0%. The options illustrated in Attachment 1 are based on the previously submitted February 9th report. The options previously presented for consideration represent a total adjusted tax increase of 2.95% or approximately \$33 for the average home in Vaughan. It should be noted that some of these options include estimates and others are interim measures which will have an impact on future tax increases.

Since the last Budget Committee meeting new information has become available generating two additional opportunities to further reduce the 2009 Draft Operating Budget. These options are the potential to move the City Page content to the City's website saving print advertising costs, which will be discussed on today's agenda and the recent receipt of a pay equity order from the Pay Equity Commission in February that was lower than originally anticipated and included in the 2009 operating budget. The addition of these options provide an opportunity to further reduce the total adjusted tax increase to 2.84% or approximately \$31 for the average home in Vaughan.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 7, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 3

Should the Budget Committee desire to achieve the lower end of the recommended tax increase range, 2.5% or approximately \$28 for the average home, the opportunity exists to leverage additional funding from the tax rate stabilization reserve. An additional \$400,000 would be required to achieve the 2.5% tax increase threshold, increasing the total reserve withdrawal from \$2.73M to \$3.31M. It is important to recognize that this option is an interim measure and does not provide a permanent and sustainable long-term funding source.

To assist the Budget Committee in their discussion illustrated below is a chart detailing the options and budget impacts discussed above.

<i>Action Items</i>	<i>Budget \$ Reduction</i>	<i>Tax Rate Implication</i>	<i>Adj. Tax Rate Increase</i>
2009 Draft Operating Budget Tax Increase			5.84%
Options Presented on Feb 9th, 2009	\$3,095,000	-2.88%	2.95%
Saving print advertising costs by moving the City Page content to the City's website.	\$31,000	-0.03%	2.92%
Pay Equity Order Budget Adjustment	\$100,000	-0.09%	2.84%
<i>Revised Tax Rate Impact</i>	<i>\$3,226,000</i>	<i>-3.00%</i>	<i>2.84%</i>
Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve Funding Increase	\$400,000	-0.34%	2.50%
<i>Revised Tax Rate Impact</i>	<i>\$3,626,000</i>	<i>-3.34%</i>	<i>2.50%</i>

The options presented for consideration represent a means to achieve the 2.5% to 3.0% tax increase range recommended by the Budget Committee. It is important to note the options provided support the mandate of the approved budget guidelines, which is to maintain service levels and support Vaughan's Vision with a minimum impact on taxes. Reducing the budget beyond the options provided will impact on service levels or require a heavier reliance on unsustainable funding sources, which will further impact on future tax increases.

Revenue Decreases and the Change in Corresponding Expenditures

In addition to the above, the Budget Committee requested additional information on any department revenue decreases and the change in corresponding expenditures. Listed below is the information requested on these areas.

Fire & Rescue Services – A revenue reduction of \$119,240 (24%) to \$376,820

Over the past few years, false alarm and auto collision call outs have experienced a slight decline in volume and an increase in uncollectable billings from insurance companies and non-Vaughan residents. The 2009 revenue budget was adjusted to better reflect historical actual trends. This reduction was not offset by a decrease in associated expenditures as emergency response is required at the time of the initial dispatch request. In addition, this service forms only one part of the total Fire & Rescue service function.

Parks Operations – A revenue reduction of \$22,070 (5.37%) to \$388,735

The decrease in Parks Operations revenue results from concluding the Asian Longhorn Beetle initiative and associated external agency recovery funding. Expenses associated with Asian Longhorn Beetle initiative did not require full-time resources and were therefore borrowed from

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 7, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 4

existing resources and programs. Now that the program has concluded resources utilized for this program have been reassigned back to forestry applications.

Economic & Business Development – A revenue reduction of \$125,000 (38.11%) to \$203,000

On Nov. 18th, 2008, the Budget Committee supported staff's recommendation to remove sponsorship revenues and offsetting expenses associated with the 2009 Discover Vaughan Bash. This is largely due to staff being pulled away from planning and organizing the Discover Vaughan Bash to implement the marketing initiatives associated with hosting the 2009 Communities in Bloom conference. Accordingly, \$125k was removed from revenues and \$75k in associated costs was removed from expenses, impacting the overall budget by approximately \$50k.

Development & Transportation Engineering – A revenue reduction of \$24,135 (11.72%) to \$181,865

The revenue budget decrease is largely a result of the anticipated decline in subdivision agreement compliance back charges stemming from improved developer compliance and impacts associated with the current economic climate. The 2009 revenue budget for these charges is now more reflective of 2008 preliminary actual figures. The corresponding expenditures, mainly contracted services, were reduced in proportion to the decrease in revenues.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is part of the process of Council setting its priorities for the year.

Regional Implications

None

Conclusion

This report is provided in response to the Budget Committee direction on February 9, 2009. It meets the Committee's direction; however depending on the options selected there could be an impact on service levels and potentially future tax increases.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Options to Reduce the 2009 Draft Operating Budget

Report prepared by:

Clayton Harris, CA
Deputy City Manager/Commissioner of Finance & Corporate Services
Ext. 8475

John Henry, CMA
Director of Budgeting & Financial Planning
Ext. 8348

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 8, Report No. 3, of the Budget Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 23, 2009.

8

**NEW VAUGHAN OFFICIAL PLAN
2009 REVISED CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST**

The Budget Committee recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Planning, dated March 9, 2009:

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Planning in consultation with the Commissioner of Finance & Corporate Services recommends:

1. That the 2009 Capital Budget Request for the new Vaughan Official Plan project be increased by \$235,000, from \$1,020,000 to \$1,255,000, to cover additional work required to complete the new Official Plan and to incorporate the work on the West Vaughan Secondary Plan which was previously approved;
2. That the increase be funded \$211,500 from CWDC-Management Studies and \$23,500 from taxation; and,
3. That Capital Project 9826-0-05 be closed as the work on the West Vaughan Secondary Plan will be incorporated within the Draft 2009 Capital Project PL-9003-07 for the new Vaughan Official Plan project.

Economic Impact

Should Committee approve this capital project budget, the 2009 Draft Capital Project will be increased by \$235,000, funded \$211,500 from CWDC-Management Studies and \$23,500 from taxation. The closing of Capital Project 9826-0-05 (\$235,000) intended for work on the West Vaughan Secondary Plan, will be made available to off-set this increase. There is no net impact.

Communications Plan

The process includes an extensive and ongoing public consultation program throughout the duration of the contract. Details of the public consultation process have been refined under direction of the Policy Planning Department in coordination with the Communications Department and the City Manager's Office staff.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to request and increase to the 2009 Capital Budget Request for the Official Plan to cover additional required work to complete the new Official Plan and to incorporate the work on the West Vaughan Secondary Plan which was previously approved.

Background - Analysis

The Official Plan project Terms of Reference was approved by Council on May 7, 2007. Council approved the selection of the Core Consulting Team led by Urban Strategies on Oct. 15, 2007. At that time the total cost to complete the new Official Plan including the Core Team contract and other associated studies under the direction of the Policy Planning Department was estimated at \$3.5 million. The estimated budget to complete the Core Consulting Team's responsibilities was \$1,505,000 over the life of the project, 2007 to 2011.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 8, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 2

The approval of the Core Consulting Team was given on the basis that a separate budget approval would be needed from Council in each year of the project.

Council approved a 2007 budget of \$750,000 of which \$580,000 was for the Core Consulting Team to cover the costs of the first two stages of their work which have been completed; \$130,000 to the Engineering Department for transportation master planning; \$40,000 to Parks and Recreation to extend the time horizon of the Active Together Master Plan and an amount for incidentals.

In 2008, Council approved a budget of \$1,545,000 for the Official Plan project. On December, 2008, Council approved a number of adjustments within the project budget to reallocate funds among its various components. These adjustments increased the overall budget for the Core Team contract from \$1,505,000 to \$1,665,000.

The 2009 Capital Budget Request for the Official Plan project totaled \$1,020,000. However, since the 2009 Capital Budget Request was prepared, it has become apparent that additional work would be required to complete the new Official Plan. This work includes:

1. Completion of a Capacity Analysis of Vaughan's potential to accommodate development intensification, involves an assessment of properties throughout the entire City's built area to determine their potential for future redevelopment. This assessment is required of all local municipalities within York Region by the Region of York in fulfillment of the Provincial Places to Grow legislation. Considerable work on a site-by-site basis is required at a level of detail not originally anticipated when the OP project was initiated.
2. Preparation of ten Development Concept Demonstration Plans, illustrating how key locations in Vaughan might be intensified and designed. These demonstration plans will be valuable in assisting future discussions between City staff and development interests regarding the City's intensification expectations. One of these Demonstration Plans will address the Jane/Rutherford area, rather than making it the subject of a separate Focused Area Study, as originally intended in the OP terms of reference. Given the work recently completed by staff on this area, the level of detailed study involved in a focused area study is not needed now.
3. Completion of a Cultural Heritage Landscape Inventory and Analysis. This subject is identified in the Provincial Policy Statement and is required to be addressed as part of the Official Plan process. However, it was not included in the Official Plan Terms of Reference approved by Council as we were unaware of the requirement at the time.

In order to cover the costs of completing these additional tasks, it is proposed that the 2009 Capital Budget Request be increased by \$235,000. This amount was previously approved by Council in the 2005 Capital Budget to prepare a secondary plan for the lands subject to the West Vaughan Enterprise Zone (designated "Employment Secondary Plan Study Area" by OPA 600). Planning for these lands has been delayed by the Environmental Assessment for the Highway 427 Extension. The EA is now nearly complete, and a secondary plan is required to define a basic structure prior to preparation of block plans by landowners.

In 2005, Council approved a Terms of Reference for a study dealing with the West Vaughan Enterprise Zone, Project 9826-0-05 with a two-phased work program. Phase 1 (\$75,000 budget) focused on the identification of a potential future Highway 427 Corridor. Phase 2 (\$160,000 budget for a total of \$235,000) involved completion of a Land Use Study, and preparation of a Secondary Plan, Zoning By-law and Urban Design Guidelines. However, prior to the initiation of the Study, the Province commenced work on the environmental assessment for the Highway 427 Extension, eliminating the need for the Phase 1 work. Preparation of the secondary plan is still necessary. Given the Core Consulting Team's familiarity with Vaughan's policy context, it will be

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 8, Budget Report No. 3 – Page 3

much more efficient for this task to be added to their contract. Cost efficiencies can thereby be achieved, reducing the budget requirement for the secondary plan to \$100,000, with the balance of the funds available to complete the additional OP-related tasks noted above. Therefore, Capital Project 9826-0-05 should be closed and funding freed up for this proposed capital project cost increase.

Since the breakdown of anticipated project-related costs was submitted in the 2009 Capital Budget Request, the changes proposed above to the 2009 Capital Budget are outlined below (Note: Revised 2009 amounts include the 3% Administration fee):

PROJECT	ORIGINAL 2009 BUDGET	REVISED 2009 BUDGET
Official Plan Core Team	\$580,000	\$580,000
Woodbridge Core Area Update	\$55,000	\$55,000
Built Heritage and Archaeological Policy Update	\$25,000	\$25,000
Documentary Film – Findings of the OP Study	\$90,000	\$90,000
Printing, facility rentals, workshops etc.	\$90,000	\$90,000
3% Administration Cost	\$30,000	\$30,000
Community Service Needs Study	\$70,000	\$70,000
Jane/Rutherford Area Study	\$80,000	\$0
Development concept demonstration plans	\$0	\$88,000
Development capacity analysis	\$0	\$95,000
West Vaughan Secondary Plan-Project #9826-0-05 (transfer in from 2005 capital budget)	\$0	\$100,000
Cultural Heritage Landscape Inventory & Analysis	\$0	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$1,020,000	\$1,255,000

These adjustments to the allocation of the 2009 budget are necessary in order to reflect the actual work to be undertaken to complete the Community Services Needs Study, the Development Concept Demonstration Plans, the Development Capacity Analysis, preparation of the West Vaughan Secondary Plan, and the Cultural Heritage Landscape Inventory and Analysis.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

The proposed new Official Plan is consistent with the Vaughan Vision Statement, and in particular to Section 4 of the Vision, 'Planning and Managing Growth'.

Conclusion

The work on Stage 3 (Developing the Plan) of the Official Plan is proceeding on schedule. The proposed adjustments to the allocation of the 2009 budget for the Official Plan project are necessary in order to reflect the evolution of thinking, and the actual work needing to be completed in order to deliver the new Official Plan for adoption on time in mid-2010. Inclusion of the West Vaughan Secondary Plan in the work program of the Core Consulting Team is logical and necessary for completion of the new Official Plan and will yield cost efficiencies. Therefore, Capital Project 9826-0-05 for the West Vaughan Secondary Plan, should be closed and the funding freed up for this proposed capital project.

Attachments

n/a

Report prepared by:

Paul Robinson, Senior Policy Planner, ext. 8410

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2009

Item 9, Report No. 3, of the Budget Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 23, 2009.

**9 NEW BUSINESS – VAUGHAN MILLS ROAD AND RUTHERFORD ROAD
 ENTRANCE FEATURE**

The Budget Committee recommends that the written submission from Ms. Frances D'Aversa, Belvedere Estates Ratepayers Association, 128 Gidleigh Park Crescent, Woodbridge, L4H 1H9, be received and referred to staff.

The foregoing matter was brought to the attention of the Committee by Councillor Carella.