
2021 Draft Operating and Capital Budget - Planning Committee

ACS2020-FSD-FIN-0023

City Wide

Report recommendation

That Planning Committee consider the relevant portions of the draft 2021 Operating and Capital Budgets and forward its recommendations to Council, sitting as Committee of the Whole, for consideration at its meeting to be held on December 9, 2020.

Motion N° PLC 2020-33/1

Moved by Acting Vice Chair J. Leiper:

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2020, Council received and tabled the 2021 Draft Capital and Operating Budget (ACS2020-FSD-FIN-0023) and associated Committee budget books; and

WHEREAS it was discovered that corrections were required in the Planning Committee Draft 2021 Budget document tabled with Council specific to Operating updates for Affordable Housing and Capital updates for Housing Services; and

WHEREAS Finance Services has subsequently issued a revised Planning Committee Draft 2021 Budget, which includes the following corrections:

	ENG Full (page)	ENG Condensed (page)	FR Condensed (page)	
Service Area				Correction / Update

Affordable Housing	34	34	44	Operating Resource Requirement – Updated 2021 expenditure estimate for Transfers/Grants/Financial Charges
Affordable Housing	46	N/A	N/A	Operating Resource Requirement Analysis – Updated 2021 Adjustments and 2021 expenditure estimate for Transfers/Grants/Financial Charges and respective totals
Affordable Housing	47	N/A	N/A	Operating Resource Requirement Explanatory Notes – Updated Growth pressure category explanation for Contribution to Capital
Housing Services	50	N/A	N/A	Capital - Project Information - Updated account 910240 forecasted authority and spending plan from 2022 to 2024
Housing Services	55	N/A	N/A	Capital - Four Year Forecast Summary - Updated account 910240 forecasted authority from 2022 to 2024

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Planning Committee receive and consider the revised Planning Committee Draft 2021 Budget document.

CARRIED

The following staff provided a presentation and/or responded to questions:

Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development Department:

- ❖ Steve Willis, General Manager
- ❖ Don Herweyer, Director, Economic Development and Long Range Planning
- ❖ John Buck, Chief Building Official
- ❖ Court Curry, Manager, ROW, Heritage & Urban Design Services

Finance Services Department:

- ❖ Wendy Stephanson, Treasure and Chief Financial Officer

Innovative Client Services Department:

- ❖ Tim Marc, Senior Legal Counsel-Planning, Development & Real Estate

Community and Social Services Department:

- ❖ Donna Gray, General Manager
- ❖ Shelley VanBuskirk, Director, Housing

The committee heard four delegations, as follows:

- Dr. Karen Somerville, President, Canadians for Properly Built Homes (CPBH)¹, accompanied by co-volunteer Nancy Shipman, raised concerns about issues impacting health and safety of occupants of newly built homes. She stressed the need for the City to ensure proper inspections by qualified inspectors, as well as to acknowledge and action its responsibility to determine if radon is a present and known issue and to establish a radon mitigation program that includes enforcement of protective measures by builders.
- Ray Sullivan, Executive Director, Centretown Citizens Ottawa Corporation, called on the City to acknowledge that housing and homelessness is an urban planning and economic development issue, not just a social service issue, noting that the City's customary \$15M annual discretionary contribution for affordable housing is not enough to address the need and compensate for the thousands of affordable housing units being lost. He suggested all zoning application reports now include

¹ Submissions on file

a section to identify implications (of the application) on housing affordability and access to affordable housing. He stressed the need to need to protect existing rental supply and suggested the City look at implementing a rental replacement bylaw.

- Alex Cullen, President, Belltown Neighbours Association², spoke to the City's policy and budget with respect to City representation at Local Planning Appeal Tribunal hearings regarding Committee of Adjustment (CoA) decisions. He noted that City policy indicates it does not represent the CoA in appeals from its decisions and that the City will only appear on an appeal if Planning department staff identifies a significant City interest or if instructed to do so by Council, but he raised concern that neither the affected ward Councillor nor the community impacted is generally made aware of the staff decision in this matter before a hearing takes place, meaning there may be no City or community representation at such a hearing to defend its position. He acknowledged that the staff decisions on whether representation in these matters is in the City's interest may be justifiable (considering associated costs and resources) but suggested this flaw in the notification process needs to be corrected.
- Sam Hersh, Horizon Ottawa, raised concerns about inadequate funding for affordable and supportive housing, noting that for every new unit the City approves, the city loses seven existing affordable housing units due to demolition and redevelopment into higher rental units. He disagreed with the City's recent decision regarding LRT construction in Manor Village that would result in the loss of 120 affordable housing units and with the City's assumption that it could afford to absorb the replacement of these (and others in future) when it only intends to budget \$15M in affordable housing per year. He suggested the City should be diverting a greater percentage of the Development Charges it collects towards soft services such as affordable housing, as other cities have. He indicated that the City's Budget documents were extremely difficult for the average person to read and understand, which he suggested may have been the reason for so few delegates having registered to speak about it.

In addition to the presentations noted above, the following correspondence was provided to the committee coordinator between November 16 (the date the report was published to the City's website with the agenda for this meeting) and the time the matter was

² Submissions on file

considered on November 26, 2020, a copy of which is held on file:

- Email dated November 25 from Salma Al-Shehabi
- Email dated November 25 from Henry Diaz, GottaGo! Campaign

The committee approved its portion of the 2021 Draft Operating and Capital Budget by way of the following motion:

Motion N° PLC 2020-33/2

Moved by Acting Vice Chair J. Leiper:

That Planning Committee recommend that Council, sitting as Committee of the Whole, approve the Planning Committee 2021 Draft Operating and Capital Budget, as amended, as follows:

- 1) **The Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development Budget, as follows:**
 - a) **Right of Way, Heritage and Urban Design:**
 - i) **User Fees (pages 4-9);**
 - ii) **Operating Resource Requirement (page 3);**
 - b) **Planning Services (excluding Building Code Services – Ontario Building Code:**
 - i) **User Fees (pages 12-18);**
 - ii) **Operating Resource Requirement (page 11);**
 - c) **Building Code Services - Ontario Building Code:**
 - i) **User Fees (pages 22-29);**
 - ii) **Operating Resource Requirement (page 21);**
 - d) **Long Range Planning - Operating Resource Requirement:**
 - i) **User Fees (pages 32);**
 - ii) **Operating Resource Requirement (page 31);**

- 2) Community and Social Services, Affordable Housing Operating Resource Requirement (revised page 34).
- 3) The Planning Committee Capital Budget (page 35) [individual projects listed on pages 50 (revised), 52-54].

CARRIED