



CITY OF HAMILTON
CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Financial Planning & Policy Division

TO:	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	March 10, 2015
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	2015 Tax Supported Operating Budget – Recommendations (FCS15010) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Tom Hewitson (905) 546-2424, Extension 4159
SUBMITTED BY:	Mike Zegarac General Manager Finance & Corporate Services Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

A. Recommended Enhancements

- (i) That the Recommended Enhancements contained in Appendix “A” attached hereto, be approved.

B. Enhancements – Other Priorities

- (i) That the Enhancements – Other Priorities contained in Appendix “B” attached hereto, be received.

C. Boards & Agencies

- (i) That the Boards and Agencies operating budget Appendix “C”, \$193,362,130 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.

D. Planning & Economic Development Department

- (i) That the Planning & Economic Development operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-1”, page 6, \$27,139,600 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.

E. Public Health Services Department

- (i) That the Public Health Services operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-2”, page 39, \$10,968,080 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved;
- (ii) That the Medical Officer of Health be authorized and directed to execute all 2015 Federal and Provincial Program Service Level Funding Agreements and any ancillary agreements required to give effect thereto and Contracts for Public Health Services as provided for in Appendix “2-2” to report FCS15010. This also includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly/year end reporting.

F. Community & Emergency Services Department

- (i) That the Community & Emergency Services operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-3”, page 71, \$231,257,300 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved;
- (ii) That the General Manager of Community & Emergency Services be authorized and directed to execute all 2015 Federal and Provincial Program Service Level Funding Agreements and any ancillary agreements required to give effect thereto and Contracts for Community Services as provided for in Appendix “2-3” to report FCS15010. This also includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly/year end reporting.

G. Public Works Department

- (i) That the Public Works operating budget, (Book 2), Appendix “2-4”, page 120, \$213,097,250 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.

I. City Manager Department

- (i) That the City Manager operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-5”, page 147, \$12,900,740 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.

J. Corporate Services Department

- (i) That the Corporate Services operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-6”, page 174, \$19,809,880 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.

H. Legislative

- (i) That the Legislative operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-7”, page 202, \$4,283,730 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.

K. Hamilton Entertainment Facilities

- (i) That the Hamilton Entertainment Facilities operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-7”, page 211, \$4,050,000 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.

L. Corporate Financials - Expenditures/Non Program Revenues

- (i) That the Corporate Financials - Expenditures operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-7”, page 204, \$15,297,465 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved;
- (ii) That the Non Program Revenues operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-7”, page 221, -\$44,089,420 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.

M. Capital Financing

- (i) That the Capital Financing operating budget \$93,877,000 be approved.

N. 2015 By-Law Authorization

- (i) That the City Solicitor & Corporate Counsel be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax levy.

O. Budgeted Complement Transfer Schedule

- (i) That in accordance with the “Budgeted Complement Control Policy”, the requested complement transfers from one department/division to another with no impact on the levy, as outlined in Appendix “E” to Report FCS15010, be approved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2015 Preliminary Tax Supported Operating Budget was submitted to GIC at its meeting on January 9, 2015. Each department then provided GIC with an in-depth

presentation of their 2015 budget. Boards and Agencies also presented, as well as members of the public provided delegations.

During this time, a number of recommended options to further reduce the average Residential total tax impact were presented. General Issues Committee also identified a number of recommended enhancements that were to be removed which also reduced the required levy increase. The proposed amendments, combined with the final growth and reassessment-related tax impacts, reduce the average Residential municipal tax impact from 4.4% (as submitted) to 3.6%. The amendments are identified in Appendix “D” to report FCS15010.

The recommendations to this report ask Council to approve the budget as submitted in the preliminary document, less proposed amendments contained in the attached Appendix “D” to report FCS15010. Council may approve additional changes which would then be added to this amendment list (Appendix “D”).

Note: The average Residential total tax impact of 3.6% **includes** approval of Recommended Enhancement Items (Recommendation A; Appendix “A”), but does **not include** approval of Enhancements – Other Priorities (Recommendation B; Appendix “B”). Should Council wish to approve any item(s) from the Enhancements – Other Priorities (Appendix “B”), it may do so by motion, and these would then be added to Appendix “D” of this report (the amendment schedule).

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 5

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (for recommendation(s) only)

Financial: Full financial information can be found in Books 1 and 2 of the 2015 Tax Supported Preliminary Operating Budget.

Staffing: A complement summary can be found in Appendix “1 – 4” of the 2015 Tax Supported Preliminary Operating Budget (Book 1).

Legal: N/A.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Chronology of events)

The 2015 Committee calendar includes a number of scheduled General Issues Committee meetings for the 2015 tax operating budget. The budget kick-off took place on January 9th, 2015, followed by various other GIC dates which allowed for departmental budget presentations. As of the writing of this report, the remaining scheduled GIC budget deliberation meeting dates are as follows:

- March 24th

- March 26th
- April 8th (Council Budget Approval)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

N/A.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

The budget has been developed in conjunction with internal and external partners.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

N/A.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

As part of the budget deliberations, Council can direct changes to the budget as required.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2012 – 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority #2

Valued & Sustainable Services

WE deliver high quality services that meet citizen needs and expectations, in a cost effective and responsible manner.

Strategic Objective

- 2.1 Implement processes to improve services, leverage technology and validate cost effectiveness and efficiencies across the Corporation.
- 2.2 Improve the City's approach to engaging and informing citizens and stakeholders.
- 2.3 Enhance customer service satisfaction.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” – 2015 Recommended Enhancements

Appendix “B” – 2015 Enhancements – Other Priorities

Appendix “C” – 2015 Boards and Agencies Operating Budget

Appendix “D” – 2015 Tax Supported Operating Budget Amendments

Appendix “E” – Budgeted Complement Transfer Schedule