

NOTICE OF MOTION

E&CS Committee Date: December 8, 2015

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR FARR.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

Re: West Harbour City Owned Lands

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton's Strategic Plan recognizes and supports the need for new affordable housing units as one of the City's top priorities (Strategic Action xi for Objective 1.5);

WHEREAS the City's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan, approved in December of 2013, targets an aggressive 50% reduction in the Access to Housing Waitlist by 2023;

WHEREAS the Access to Housing Waitlist continues to grow at an alarming wait with over 5,700 families, seniors and individuals currently on the list;

WHEREAS the City's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan emphasizes the need to upgrade the physical quality of the existing affordable housing stock in Hamilton as well as the need to provide new affordable housing units;

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton's Capital Budget lacks capacity to substantially enhance the current block funding resources provided to the Housing Services Division and City Housing Hamilton;

WHEREAS the City's 2016 Capital Budget documents recognizes and identifies the need to target capital investments in rehabilitation programs including but not limited to 'affordable housing';

WHEREAS the City's 2016 Capital Budget document identifies City Housing Services and City Housing Hamilton as significant City-wide services "which have not been accounted for in whole or in part with regards to the financing plans" (Book 1, pg. 17);

WHEREAS the City's 2016 Capital Budget document clearly outlines the infrastructure deficit in the area of the provision of affordable housing stating "without an additional source of funding, social housing providers have limited options to deal with the rising cost of capital and emergency repairs"(Book 1, pg. 27);

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton is currently servicing a number of City owned properties in the West Harbour area for the planned sale and development of new commercial and residential projects; and

WHEREAS the sale of said properties will generate one time revenues for the City of Hamilton;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- a) That staff prepare a report for the consideration of the Emergency and Community Services Committee and thereafter Council that investigates dedicating the funds generated from the sale of City owned properties in the West Harbour area to the rehabilitation of the City's existing affordable housing stock, and/or the provision of new affordable housing units;
- b) That the report include an investment strategy referencing the City's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan strategies and targets; and
- c) That the report include an inventory of the aforementioned lands, with approximate current market values.

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

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That the Rules of Order be waived to allow for consideration of a motion at today's Emergency and Community Services committee meeting respecting West Harbour city owned lands.