




To: General Purposes Committee
From: Phyllis L. Carlyle
 General Manager, Law & Community Safety
Re: Provincial Funding for Fire Rescue Services

Date: February 19, 2010
File:

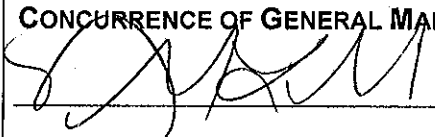

Staff Recommendations

1. That the reduced 2008 surplus allocation request of \$148,500 for additional temporary Fire Rescue services be approved.
2. That the General Manager of Law and Community Safety be authorized to execute the contribution agreement with the Province of British Columbia.



Phyllis L. Carlyle
 General Manager, Law & Community Safety
 (604-276-4104)

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY					
ROUTED TO:		CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Budgets		Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>			
REVIEWED BY TAG		YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED BY CAO	
				YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At the June 8, 2009 Finance Committee a report containing details on the recommended 2008 surplus allocation requests was presented, which resulted in the following referral:

“That Item 23 on the list of Surplus Allocation requests (Additional temporary fire service resources) be referred back to staff with the funding for further analysis and update.”

This report responds to the above referral.

Findings Of Fact

A request was made to the Province to fund Richmond’s costs relating to Fire Rescue presence in the Olympic Oval and response in the Urban Domain.

At the same time, the funding request of \$317,000 was submitted to Council to address the need for additional temporary fire service staff resources to respond to the impact of the anticipated increased call volume in the Urban Domain during the Olympic period. The original funding request presented to Finance Committee in June is found in **Attachment 1** and contained funding alternatives while the City continued its negotiations with the Province.

Analysis

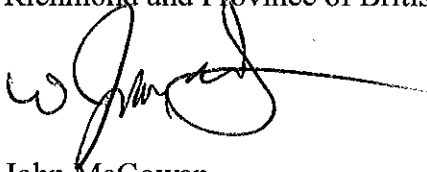
The City concluded its negotiations with the Province. The Province has agreed to fund a total of \$168,462, which is composed of \$21,371 for Fire Rescue’s costs for service to the Oval and \$147,091 for the Urban Domain. A contribution agreement between the City of Richmond and the Province of British Columbia, reflecting the funding arrangement, has been prepared and is ready for execution. The deadline for submission of the City of Richmond’s Fire/Rescue expenses to the Province of British Columbia is March 31, 2010.

Financial Impact

A onetime funding request from the 2008 Surplus in the amount of \$148,500 is required in order to provide additional Fire-Rescue resources. This request has been reduced from \$317,000 based on funding received from the Province.

Conclusion

Provincial negotiations for the provision of Fire Rescue services during the Olympics were successfully concluded with provincial funding in the amount of \$168,462 to be provided to the City. The 2008 surplus allocation request for additional temporary fire resources can therefore be reduced from \$317,000 to \$148,500. A contribution agreement between the City of Richmond and Province of British Columbia is required.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John McGowan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John McGowan
Fire Chief, Richmond Fire Rescue
(604-303-2734)

Attachment 1

23. ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY FIRE-RESCUE RESOURCES

Amount Requested: \$317,000

RATIONALE

VANOC advised the Fire Rescue Advisory Board (FRAB) that based on historical Olympic experience the Fire and Rescue services in venue cities can expect to see a 25% increase in medical-related call volumes and a 3-5% increase in Fires over the 17 day Olympic period. Based on this information, the FRAB members and Olympic venue Fire and Rescue Departments are all using this as a basis to plan for their emergency response services in the Urban Domain area (including YVR), which excludes the Olympic Venue and celebration zones. The full apparatus and staff costs, including benefits and overhead, are currently the subject of negotiation between venue City CAOs, Mayors and the Province.

PRIORITY: Medium

DESCRIPTION

Additional temporary Richmond Fire-Rescue staff resources are requested to address the impact of the increased call volume in the Urban Domain area. Overtime staff resources for the 17-day 24-hour period include: 1 Fire Commander (Battalion Chief), and for the two additional apparatus - two captains and six firefighters.

ALTERNATIVES

Provide no City funding and continue to negotiate with the Province.

IMPACT (If not approved)

Should neither the City nor Province fund the additional temporary staffing request, then Richmond Fire-Rescue would continue to respond to emergencies with existing apparatus and staff resources. The increased call volume could create delays in emergency response within Richmond.

TAG RECOMMENDATION

That \$317,000 be appropriated