

Works & Emergency Services
Barry H. Gutteridge, Commissioner

Water & Wastewater Services
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BRIEFING NOTE

Water Efficiency Efforts within City Departments and A B C's

Issue/Background:

During consideration of the Water and Wastewater Capital and Operating Budgets, the Works Committee requested that ...

The Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services provide to the Budget Advisory Committee briefing notes on the steps that the City has taken to encourage reduction, reuse and alternative sources of water with City Departments and Agencies, Boards and Commissions that experience heavy water usage, and the predicted cost savings;

Key Point(s):

- Green Roof demonstration project at City Hall and Eastview Community Centre
- Alternative water source (stormwater ponds) for irrigation at Woodbine Park (installed) and two municipal golf courses (feasibility study)
- Computer irrigation systems installed in some City parks
- Replacement of “one time through” fountains / waterfalls with re-circulating systems
- Replacement of continuous flow drinking fountains with on-demand drinking fountains
- Retrofit former City of Toronto buildings with water efficient fixtures
- Metro Hall included in pilot phase for ICI water audit program
- \$1.7 million so far towards replacing 29,000 toilets at Toronto Community Housing Corporation. Committed to completing the remaining 21,000
- Facilities and Real Estate will be including a water efficiency component in all energy retrofit projects that they are undertaking in City owned buildings
- Cost savings are not apparent in Parks projects because they do not pay for water used (except for former Toronto and Scarborough facilities)

Conclusion:

The Water Efficiency Plan which extends over 11 years will target the City's ABC's and city departments as part of the roll-out of institutional initiatives. Although there is a lack of incentive due to

the availability of free water at the present time, City parks are interested in reducing potable water use by reusing stormwater for irrigation on golf courses and in parks as well as through use of computer controlled irrigation systems. Meetings will continue in 2004 to explore further opportunities for water savings with the ABC's and the City Departments.

Date: February 17, 2004