
2005 BUDGET BRIEFING NOTE: Traffic Studies and Investigations

Issue / Background:

The Budget Advisory Committee, at its meeting on January 24, 2005, during consideration of the Transportation Services 2005 Operating Budget, requested the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services to report back for its wrap-up meeting on the implications of reducing the budget for traffic studies and investigations by \$750,000.00.

Key Issues:

In 2004, the Transportation Services Division completed approximately 2,800 traffic studies and investigations in response to requests from the public and Councillors. These investigations resulted in approximately 500 reports to Community Councils and Works Committee as well as numerous improvements / changes to our transportation networks (see Appendix "A" attached).

A reduction of \$750,000.00 (representing 15 staff) in the Traffic Studies and Investigations area, would result in a backlog of 840 investigations after 1 year, 1,680 investigations after 2 years and 2,520 investigations after 3 years, creating potential serious liability issues for the City.

It must be noted that this reduction would seriously impact the resources in one of the most important areas required to support those projects for which additional funds are being allocated in the Capital Budget such as, traffic calming, installation of bike lanes, and installation of bike crossings.

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APPENDIX “A”

TRAFFIC INVESTIGATIONS RESULT IN:

- Installation of New Traffic Control Signals / PXO's
- Modification of Existing Traffic Control Signals / PXO's
- Signal Timing Adjustments
- * Installation of Speed Humps / Speed Bumps *
- Installation of New Stop Signs
- Parking Control Changes
- Changes to Traffic Movements around Schools
- Changes to One-Way Streets
- Geometric Changes to Roads
- Sidewalk Widening
- Installation of New / Modification of Existing Pavement Markings
- Changes to Turn Prohibitions
- Traffic Safety Improvements
- By-law Changes

SUPPORT FUNCTIONS:

- * Installation of Bike Lanes *
 - * Installation of Bike Crossings *
 - Transit Priority Projects
 - Development Review
- * Projects for which additional funds are being allocated in the Capital Budget